# THE SCOTS MAGAZINE,

## *For* JANUARY 1797.

CONTENTS.


| | Pag. |
|---|---|
| **BIOGRAPHY, ESSAYS.** | |
| Conſtituent parts of the Potatoe Root | 2 |
| Account of the Life and Writings of Robert Burns | 3 |
| Anecdote of Oxford Clergy | 9 |
| Reflections on the New Year | 10 |
| Anecdotes of Police of Paris | 12 |
| Obſervations on Monarchies, &c. by *Mr Burke* | 14 |
| Curious particulars of the Cuſtoms of the Indians near Hudſon's Bay | 17 |
| Compariſon of the Talents of Men and Women | 19 |
| On Bigotry | 21 |
| Topography and Natural Hiſtory of Scotland—*Dumfries-ſhire* | 24 |
| Allegories and Parables from the German | 29 |
| The Excellent Wife, from *Dr Moor's Edward* | 31 |
| **REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.** | |
| Studies of Nature, tranſlated by *Dr Hunter* | 37 |
| Three Dialogues on the Amuſements of Clergymen | 42 |
| An Inquiry into the Foundation and Hiſtory of the Law of Nations in Europe, &c. by *Robert Ward*, Eſq; Barriſter at Law | 43 |
| Edwards' account of the Maroon war, &c. | 45 |
| Miſs Hamilton's Letters by a Hindoo Rajah | 47 |
| Philoſophical Tranſactions of the London Royal Society for 1795, Part II. | 48 |
| Letters from a Farmer on the bill for regulating the ſale of Corn by weight | 50 |
| NEW PUBLICATIONS | 49 |

| | Pag. |
|---|---|
| **POETRY.** | |
| Ode for the New Year by the Poet Laureat | 50 |
| Lines to the Memory of Robert Burns | 51 |
| A Friend's Advice | 52 |
| **PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.** | |
| *Commons*—King's Meſſage regarding the diſmiſſing of Lord Malmesbury from Paris | 53 |
| *Lords* | 57 |
| **MONTHLY REGISTER.** | |
| Containing intereſting Gazette intelligence, from the Weſt Indies; Invaſion of Ireland, &c. | 64 |
| CONTINENTAL INTELLIGENCE. | |
| Germany | 64 |
| Italy | 64 |
| Ruſſia | 65 |
| Weſt Indies | 65 |
| America—fires at New York and Savannah | 65 |
| LONDON. | |
| Falling of three of the Stones at Stonehenge | 66 |
| Liſt of the French fleet that were to invade Ireland | 67 |
| DUBLIN. | |
| Meſſage from the Lord Lieutenant to the Iriſh Parliament | 67 |
| EDINBURGH. | |
| Royal Edinburgh Volunteers offer to take the duty of the Caſtle | 68 |
| Sir John Sinclair's Addreſs to the Farmers of Britain and Ireland | 69 |
| Report of the Weather, &c. | 70 |
| LISTS—Marriages—Births—Deaths, Preferments, &c. | 70—72 |



*EDINBURGH:*

Sold by JAMES WATSON & Co. No 40. South Bridge;
And by the Principal Bookſellers in Town and Country.
By ALLEN & WEST, No 16. Paternoſter-row, London.

# THE CONSTITUENT PARTS OF THE POTATOE ROOT.

BY DR PEARSON.

FROM Dr Pearſon's Experiments it appears that 100 parts of potatoe-root, deprived of its ſkin or bran, conſiſt of

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Water, - - | 68 to 72 | |
| 2. Meal, - - | 32 to 28 | |
| | 100 | 100 |

The meal conſiſts of three different ſubſtances:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Starch or fecula - | 17 to 15 | |
| 2. Leafy or fibrous matter, - | 9 to 8 | |
| 3. Extract or ſoluble mucilage, | 6 to 5 | |
| | 32 | 28 |

The potatoe-root contains alſo pot-aſh, or vegetable alkali. By eſtimation, there were ten grains of it in its mild ſtate from 1000 grains of the root; but as of theſe ten grains not leſs than two and a half were carbonic acid, or fixed air, produced during burning, we cannot reckon the quantity of this alkali more than ſeven grains and a half in 1000 of the root; that is, three-fourths of a grain per cent.

The aſhes of 1000 grains of potatoe-root afforded alſo ſeven grains and a half, or three fourths of a grain per cent. of ſubſtances not examined; but which are very probably the ſame ſubſtances afforded by the aſhes of vegetable matters in general; namely, oxide, or calx of iron, and of manganeſe, phoſphoric acid united to lime, magneſia, and muriate of ſoda, or common ſalt.

The ſubſtances found in the aſhes of 1000 grains of the potatoe-root amounting to fifteen grains do not, we have good reaſon to believe, enter into the compoſition, or are eſſential parts of the root, but are merely extraneous matters, introduced into the plant along with water, air, and other aliment, or are ſecreted by the power of the vegetable œconomy.

There is alſo in the root under examination, volatile eſſential oil, or *ſpiritus rector*, to which is owing its ſmell and the little taſte it poſſeſſes. The proportion of volatile oil is too ſmall even to be eſtimated; and moſt of it ſeems to fly off with the water during diſtillation or evaporation. The greateſt part or the whole of this oil, may be waſhed out along with this extract or ſoluble mucilage.

There is in the juice, or water of the potatoe-root, an acid which diſappears upon burning the root aſhes; either becauſe it is decompounded by the fire, or evaporated, or becauſe it enters into chemical union during the combuſtion. The acid is not diſcoverable in the filtrated liquid from the bruiſed root, becauſe the proportion of it is too ſmall to be detected by any teſt when diluted with water. We may add, that the *black potatoe* not only appears to be the moſt prolific, but to afford more ſtarch than the white, and is of a greater ſpecific gravity.

*From Report of the Committee of the Board of Agriculture.*

THE

# SCOTS MAGAZINE,

## For JANUARY 1797.

### SOME ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF ROBERT BURNS,

THE AYRSHIRE POET*.

WE are naturally intereſted in the life of an author, whoſe writings have afforded us either pleaſure or inſtruction. We wiſh to know the moſt minute circumſtances in his private conduct and domeſtic ſituation; we are gratified by being made acquainted with every particular of his character and conduct; we even feel a deſire to be able to depict his perſon in our imagination. In the preſent inſtance, however, much is not to be expected; Burns lived five-and-twenty years in obſcurity; he never occupied a ſtation in life where he had an opportunity of diſplaying his powers, or calling forth his abilities to public view. They who knew him beſt, however, give the ſtrongeſt teſtimony to the ſuperiority of his mind; and there can be little doubt, had he been called to act a part in public life, that his conduct would have been attended with advantage to ſociety. In the narrow field of agriculture, the genius of Burns had not room to expand; it was not here that his talents were to flouriſh; it was in ſociety, where foul kindleth foul, and where one face ſharpeneth another, that our poet was to ſhine.

Burns was born at Alloway, a ſmall village near the town of Ayr, in the year 1759. His father was a gardener and overſeer on the eſtate of Doonholm; he himſelf was bred to the plough. We have not heard that, in his younger days, Burns diſcovered any thing remarkable in his conduct: this is probably becauſe thoſe about him were incapable of diſcerning the dawn of his genius. He uſed himſelf to ſay, that his father thought him the beſt reader in the houſe, and generally employed him to read the Bible to the family. His education was only that of an ordinary country ſchool; he learned no more than to read and write Engliſh, and the ſimple rules of arithmetic, at the village of Alloway. An eagerneſs for knowledge, and a taſte for reading, however, ſoon led him to ſeek after books. It is worthy of notice, that the firſt book which attracted Burns' attention, and urged him to read for pleaſure, was "The Man of Feeling." This was his *vade mecum*; for we have heard him ſay, that, by carrying it in his pocket, he wore out two copies of that elegant and bewitching novel. Being preſſed one day to give a reaſon why he never took the trouble of acquiring the Latin language, he replied with a ſmile, "That he already knew all the Latin he deſired to learn, and that was, *omnia vincit amor.*"

It is to be regretted we have not been able to diſcover the date of his firſt poetic ſallies. He had, at a pretty early period, become acquainted with moſt of the Engliſh claſſics, and there is little doubt but his muſe would occaſionally be heard amongſt his acquaintance. Certain it is, however, that by far the greater part of his poems were written while he followed the plough, while he was under 30 years of age, and while he had no opportunity of knowing the world, but from books—a

* See poem on his death, p. 51.

defect which was wonderfully supplied by his uncommon sagacity and penetration. It is also evident from many of his later productions, that he understood the French language; we are informed he often conversed in that tongue, and was fond of it.

To such a genius, the scanty employment of a peasant, in a small farm, seemed poor and contemptible. Not being enabled to extend his views in his own profession, in this country, and from a desire to better his fortune, Burns had conceived a plan of going out to a friend in Jamaica. In order to raise a little money towards paying the expence of his voyage, he was advised to publish his poems. They were accordingly printed at Ayr about the year 1785. Though such was the object of publishing the first edition of his poems, yet we are not to conclude, that

"The simple Bard, rough at the rustic plough,
Learning his tuneful trade from every bough."

"—— Nurst in the peasant's lowly shed,
To hardy independence bravely bred,
By early poverty to hardship steel'd,
And train'd to arms in stern misfortune's field,"

never felt the passion for fame, so remarkable in all poets. No; in the same poem (Brigs of Ayr) he says,

"He glows with all the spirit of the Bard,
Fame, honest Fame, his great, his *dear* reward."

Fortunately a copy fell into the hands of Mr M'Kenzie, who, with some others, was then engaged in a periodical work called the Lounger. Mr M'Kenzie, struck with the native energy of our Bard, with great discernment and beneficence, called upon his countrymen to do justice to the merits of the Ayrshire Ploughman; for this end he gave some account of the author, with a specimen of his poems, in the 97th number of that work. The way in which Mr M'Kenzie introduces him is so striking and elegant, that our readers will not be displeased at our transcribing part of it.

"To the feeling and susceptible mind, there is something wonderfully pleasing in the contemplation of genius; of that supereminent reach of mind, by which some men are distinguished. In the view of highly superior talents, as in that of great and stupendous natural objects, there is a sublimity which fills the soul with wonder and delight; which expands it, as it were, beyond its usual bounds; and which, investing our nature with extraordinary powers, and extraordinary honours, interests our curiosity, and flatters our pride.

"I know not if I shall be accused of enthusiasm and partiality, when I introduce to the notice of my readers a poet of our country, with whose writings I have lately become acquainted; but if I am not greatly deceived, I think I may pronounce him a genius of no ordinary rank. The person I allude to is Robert Burns, an Ayrshire ploughman. I hope I shall not be thought to assume too much, if I endeavour to draw him from the obscurity of his situation, to call for a verdict of his country on the merit of his works, and to claim for him those honours which their excellence appears to deserve."

The curiosity of the public being thus excited, a subscription for a more respectable and enlarged edition of his poems was most laudably set on foot, in which many of the first names in the country appeared. It was published in April 1787, with a dedication to the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the Caledonian Hunt, written by himself. A striking likeness of the author, painted by Nasmyth, and neatly engraved by Beugo, ornamented this edition, which was sold at 6s. This success, both honourable and lucrative, convinced the poet, that his merit would not be overlooked, when known by his countrymen. Relinquishing his scheme of going to the West Indies, he came to Edinburgh, and superintended the publication. This may be said to be the beginning of his public career. Here Burns blazed like a comet; for a few months his company was courted

courted by almoſt all who valued themſelves upon a refined taſte. To be acquainted with Burns, was a ſort of title to poetical reputation. Burns alſo ſhone in general converſation; he was a man of good ſenſe, as well as a poet; both wits and philoſophers were ſtruck and charmed with his appearances. This ſhort period, for it laſted only a few months, was the zenith of our poet. Soon after the publication of his poems, he returned to his rural employments, and to enjoy the pleaſures of retirement. But, alas! with a mind ſpoiled for the ſweets of it. Having been introduced into circles where philoſophy, flattery, pleaſure, and exceſs were to be met with, he loſt his reliſh for the ſimplicity of a peaſant's life, and a peaſant's ſociety; and with this he loſt his eaſe and peace of mind.

Upon his return to the country, he flew into the arms of his beloved Jean, hoping to realiſe all the happineſs, comfort, and pleaſure in the married ſtate, which his lively imagination had ſo often pictured to him. But, alas! Jean had not the learning, the wit, the vivacity and affability of the ladies he had ſo lately ſeen, and by whoſe notice he was ſo much flattered. He forgot that his own ideas were changed, that in place of the plain, ſimple, ruſtic Jean, his fancy run upon the wit and repartee of a fine lady; thus he experienced a diſappointment, which he was unable to conceal, and which embittered his domeſtic happineſs.

Let the admirers of talents, and the patrons of merit recollect, that the banqueting houſe and the table of mirth, are not the places where they ought to ſhow their reſpect for genius, and their approbation of merit. The change from retirement to faſhionable diſſipation is ſo great, and at the ſame time, ſo flattering, that it nevers fails to injure the perſon who is meant to be benefited by it.

Soon after this period, Mr Miller of Dalſwinton conferred a more eſſential ſervice upon our poet. Wiſhing to preſerve him in his ruſtic employment, and to keep his muſe uncorrupted, that ſhe might again appear in all her native wildneſs and majeſty, he very generouſly gave him a farm, called Ellieſland, on his eſtate in Dumfries-ſhire, at a moderate rent.—Upon viſiting him here, we found him in a cottage beautifully ſituated, cloſe by the edge of the river Nith, which is elegantly fringed with wood. The houſe was new, but ſmall, conſiſting of one floor only. It was eaſily capable of much neatneſs, but which we were diſappointed to find totally a-wanting. Here too we ſaw Jean, ſhe was then a comely ruſtic woman, cleanly and becomingly dreſt. —Now Burns' habits of induſtry and frugality were gone. His love for company made him neglect the management of his affairs; forgetting his duty to himſelf and to his family, he ran in debt, and was obliged to quit his farm. The friends of his merit, however, did not leave him in indigence. They ſoon procured the place of an exciſeman for him, with an income of about 50l. per annum. In this ſituation he reſided in the town of Dumfries, where he met with much attention and kindneſs. His admirers will ſay, whether it was for his ſake or their own, that they withdrew him ſo often from his own family. Knowing his propenſity for company, and his ſocial turn, the tavern was too often the ſcene of ſuch meetings. Diſcontent and a juſt ſenſe of his own miſconduct, ſoured his temper, and chagrined his mind, which ſeems to have been naturally of a melancholy caſt. This occaſionally appears in his poems:

"Oppreſs'd with grief, oppreſs'd with care,
A burden more than I can bear,
I ſit me down and ſigh:
O life! thou art a galling load,
Along a rough, a weary road,
To wretches ſuch as I!

Dim-backward as I caſt my view,
What ſick'ning ſcenes appear!
What ſorrows yet may pierce me through,
Too juſtly I may fear!"

The reflection of one debauch was to be effaced by another, till at laſt a

Premature end was put to his life, on the 21ſt of July 1796, at the age of 37.

Thus died Robert Burns, the pupil of nature; the poet of inſpiration; and who poſſeſſed, in no ordinary degree, the powers and failings of genius. Of the former, his works will rem in a laſting monument; of the latter, his conduct and fate afford but too melancholy a proof.—Let others profit by the miſconduct of Burns.

After what we have ſaid, it will not appear ſurpriſing, that no proviſion was made for his family. The laſt portion of his life was ſpent in much diſtreſs and indigence. His widow, with 6 children, (one of whom was born the day after the death of the father,) are left to the charity and bounty of their countrymen. A public ſubſcription has been ſet on foot for their ſupport, and a poſthumous edition of his works, we underſtand, is in conſiderable forwardneſs. The children are too young to form an eſtimate of their abilities or genius, but we are informed that the eldeſt boy diſcovers much of his father's genius and manner.

They who knew and eſteemed Burns only as a poet, knew but part of his merit; for all who had the pleaſure of being perſonally acquainted with him, will allow, that poetry was actually not his *forte*. Few outſhone Burns in the charms of converſation; the ſpontaneous eloquence of ſocial argument; and the unſtudied poignancy of brilliant repartee, never failed to ſtrike and to charm thoſe who heard Him. Burns' external appearance was not, perhaps, beyond mediocrity, although rather agreeable than otherwiſe. His body was robuſt, moulded for the rough exerciſes of his profeſſion. His features were ſtamped with the hardy character of independence; and when he ſpoke, a conſcious ſuperiority gliſtened in his countenance. He deſpiſed, or affected to deſpiſe, all ſoftneſs and polith. But the lightning of his fine dark eye, was always the harbinger of ſome ſtath of genius; and ſuch was the power of attraction which encircled him, that, notwithſtanding his manners, he never failed to delight and excel in converſation. The keenneſs of ſatire was his forte and his foible; for though nature had endowed him with a large portion of that perilous gift, it muſt be confeſſed, that he too frequently ſuffered it to be the vehicle of perſonal animoſity, and that often without juſt cauſe. The darts of ridicule were frequently directed, as the caprice of the moment ſuggeſted, or the altercations of parties, or of perſons, happened to kindle the flame. But this was not always the caſe, though his wit had generally the ſtart of his judgment, and often led him to the indulgence of raillery, uniformly acute, yet it was often, perhaps always, unaccompanied by any deſire to wound. He paid, however, the forfeit of his talents as dearly as any one could do, for (as Yorick ſays of himſelf), for every ten jokes he got an hundred enemies.

Burns was endowed with a wonderful diſcernment of character, he looked almoſt with an intuitive glance into men and manners. This, with a high ſenſe of independence, ſet him always at his caſe in every company he mixed with.

Much allowance will be made by every candid mind for the ſplenetic warmth of a ſpirit whom diſtreſs often "ſpited with the world." His ſoul was never languid or inactive; it acknowledged no *degree* between the extremes of love and hatred; conceiving every thing with the force of a ſtrong imagination, what accorded with his opinion, was put often in too favourable a point of view, that which met his diſapprobation was ſet up as nugatory and ridiculous.

He poſſeſſed in an imminent degree, as he himſelf expreſſes it, "The light that led aſtray," which alternately exalted him above, and ſunk him beneath the man. "The penchant Mr Burns had uniformly acknowledged for the feſtive pleaſures of the table, (ſays a panegyriſt) and

towards

towards the fairer and ſofter objects of Nature's creation, has been the rallying point where the attacks of his cenſors, both pious and moral, have been directed; and to theſe, it muſt be confeſſed, he ſhewed himſelf no Stoic. His poetical pieces blend, with alternate happineſs of deſcription, the frolic ſpirit of the joy-inſpiring bowl, or melt the heart to the tender and impaſſioned ſentiments in which beauty always taught him to pour forth his own. But who will wiſh to reprove the feelings he has conſecrated with ſuch lively touches of nature? And where is the rugged moraliſt that will perſuade us ſo far to "chill the genial current of the ſoul," as to regret that Ovid ever celebrated his Corinna, or that Anacreon ſung beneath his vine."

We do not think it neceſſary to enter minutely into the character of Burns as a Poet, or to give a critical detail of his works; good ſenſe and juſt reflection run through moſt of them. Every reader of diſcernment and taſte, will not fail to applaud their merit, and condemn their faults; there is certainly more to praiſe, than to blame in them. The diſtinction between virtue and vice, however, ought never to be loſt ſight of; general encomiums without reſerve may not only bias the taſte and opinion of the young and thoughtleſs, but may ſeduce others to a miſemployment of their talents. Burns was a man who ſaw every thing in the ſtrongeſt point of view, and being alſo of quick conception, he often forgot to make the proper allowances for the frailty of human nature. The moſt energetic language and the moſt powerful ridicule were therefore employed in expoſing what he conſidered as errors. It is to be regretted that theſe ſhould ſometimes be directed againſt ſubjects of a ſacred nature; in ridiculing the abuſe of religion, and expoſing ſuperſtition, fanatiſm, and hypocriſy, he is often in danger of ridiculing religion itſelf, and of ſpeaking too lightly of things the moſt ſacred. As inſtances, we might quote his "Addreſs to the Deil," and "The Holy Fair." In this he is the more reprehenſible, that he refuſed to adopt the corrections of ſome of the beſt judges, and firſt literary characters in this country: he forgot his own liberal advice:

Then gently ſcan your brother man,
Still gentler ſiſter woman.
Tho' they may gang a-kennin wrang,
To ſtep aſide is human.

One point muſt ſtill be greatly dark,
The moving *why* they do it,
And juſt as lamely can ye mark
How far perhaps they rue it.

In ſome others he deſcends to the moſt malevolent perſonal abuſe, without ſhowing any of that liberality, candour, and charity which he ſo often recommends.

Burns appears to have had often a melancholy deſponding caſt, and his poems written under this frame of mind ſhew ſtrong impreſſions of religion and reverence for the Deity, as his "Ode to Deſpondency, "Man was made to Mourn, a "Prayer in the proſpect of Death," and others of his ſerious compoſitions. His talent for deſcription, and the numerous delicate touches of nature which abound in all his poems need not be particularized, but we cannot paſs unnoticed "the Cottar's Saturday night," where they appear with ſo much beauty and variety.

In his deſcriptions, like Thomſon, he paints things as they are, exhibits them in their moſt pictureſque and ſtriking circumſtances, but never crouds his poem with far fetched images, or lumbers it with fulſome epithets.

Of his knowledge of the world, and his obſervations on men and manners, we have many ſtriking proofs. In the "Twa Dogs" much ſatire and pertinent remark is to be found. His epiſtle to a Young Friend comes under the ſame deſcription, though it favours more of worldly wiſdom than of warm heartedneſs and generoſity, particularly the following verſe:

"Ay free, aff han' your ſtory tell
When wi a boſom crony;
But ſtill keep ſomething to yourſell
Ye ſcarcely tell to ony.

Conceal yourſel' as wel's ye can
Frae critical diſſection:
But keek thro' every other man
Wi' ſharpened, ſly inſpection."

But the extent and ſublimity of his genius appears with greateſt ſplendour, in the "Viſion, and Tam o'Shanter." It is there his imagination ſoars the higheſt, and diſplays the true genius of poetry. The laſt is almoſt an epitome of all his powers; it is ſuch as a great poet only could write.

Upon the whole, we muſt expreſs our opinion, that the diſtinguiſhing excellence of Burns' poems, conſiſts in his juſt and beautiful reflections. There is not, perhaps, one poem in the book, in which ſomething moral does not occur, and ſomething which the reader would not wiſh to remember. Theſe reflections are not ſtrained, or ſought for, they are natural, and often introduced, moſt happily, amidſt the excurſive flights of fancy. When deſcribing Tam o'Shanter, in all the happineſs of getting drunk with Souter Johnny, he ſtops to make this beautiful reflection:

"But pleaſures are like poppies ſpread:
You ſeize the flower, its bloom is fled:
Or, like the ſnow, falls in the river,
A moment white, then melts for ever:
Or, like the borealis race,
That flit ere ye can point their place:
Or, like the rainbow's lovely form,
Evanifhing amid the ſtorm."

It is to be regretted, that ſo many poems of merit, are written in a dialect intelligible only to a few. This circumſtance, however, enhances their value to Scotchmen; and the peculiarity of humour which he diſplays, and manners he deſcribes, could not be conveyed in any other language.

Though Burns wrote with fluency and eaſe, yet he conſidered it below him to be an author by profeſſion, or to write for gain. A friend knowing his family to be in great want, urged the propriety, and even neceſſity, of publiſhing a few poems, aſſuring him of their ſucceſs, and ſhowing the advantage that would accrue to his family from it. His anſwer was, "*No*, if a friend deſires me, and if I'm in the mood for it, I'll write a poem, but I'll be d——d if ever I write for money."

In thus endeavouring to make our readers acquainted with the character of Burns, we have diveſted ourſelves of all prejudice and partiality. If we have ſaid any thing to his diſcredit, not well founded, we ſhould be extremely ſorry, and will moſt readily retract. In eſtimating his merits, we hope, we have not exceeded the opinion and judgment of any one better able and better entitled to judge.

We ſhall conclude this account by inſerting the Bard's epitaph, which Burns meant for himſelf, and which is very applicable to his character.

## EPITAPH.

Is there a whim-inſpired fool,
Owre faſt for thought, owre hot for rule,
Owre blate to ſeek, owre proud to ſnool,
Let him draw near;
And owre this graſſy heap ſing dool,
And drap a tear.

Is there a Bard of ruſtick ſong,
Who, noteleſs, ſteals the crowds among,
That weekly this area throng,
O, paſs not by!
But, with a frater-feeling ſtrong,
Here heave a ſigh!

Is there a man, whoſe judgment clear,
Can others teach the courſe to ſteer,
Yet runs, himſelf, life's mad career,
Wild as the wave;
Here pauſe!—and, thro' the ſtarting tear,
Survey this grave.

The poor inhabitant below,
Was quick to learn, and wiſe to know,
And keenly felt the friendly glow,
And *ſoffer flame*;
But thoughtleſs follies laid him low,
And ſtain'd his name!

Reader attend!—Whether thy ſoul
Soars Fancy's flight beyond the pole;
Or, darkling, grubs this earthly hole,
In low purſuit;
Know, prudent, cautious, *ſelf-controul*,
Is Wiſdom's root.

## ANECDOTE OF THE OXFORD CLERGY.

FROM MORITZ' TOUR IN ENGLAND.

M. MORITZ, accompanied by an Oxford clergyman, who had joined him on the road, entered Oxford in the evening. "At length," proceeds our traveller, "my companion ſtopped to take leave of me, and ſaid, he ſhould now go to his college.

"And I, ſaid I, will ſeat myſelf for the night on this ſtone-bench, and await the morning, as it will be in vain for me, I imagine, to look for ſhelter in an houſe at this time of night.

"Seat yourſelf on a ſtone, ſaid my companion, and ſhook his head: No! no! come along with me to a neighbouring ale-houſe, where, it is poſſible, they mayn't be gone to bed, and we may yet find company. We went on a few houſes further, and then knocked at a door. It was then nearly twelve. They readily let us in; but how great was my aſtoniſhment, when, on our being ſhewn into a room on the left, I ſaw a great number of clergymen, all with their gowns and bands on, ſitting round a large table, each with his pot of beer before him. My travelling companion introduced me to them, as a German clergyman, whom he could not ſufficiently praiſe, for my correct pronunciation of the Latin, my orthodoxy, and my good walking.

"I now ſaw myſelf, in a moment as it were, all at once tranſported into the midſt of a company, all apparently very reſpectable men, but all ſtrangers to me. And it appeared to me extraordinary, that I ſhould thus at midnight be in Oxford, in a large company of Oxonian clergy, without well knowing how I had got there. Meanwhile, however, I took all the pains in my power to recommend myſelf to my company, and, in the courſe of converſation, I gave them as good an account as I could of our German univerſities, neither denying, nor concealing, that, now and then, we had riots and diſturbances. "O! we are very unruly here too," ſaid one of the clergymen, as he took a hearty draught out of his pot of beer, and knocked on the table with his hand. The converſation now became louder, more general, and a little confuſed: they inquired after Mr Bruns, at preſent profeſſor at Helmſtadt, and who was known by many of them.

"Among theſe gentlemen, there was one of the name of Clerk, who ſeemed ambitious to paſs for a great wit, which he attempted, by ſtarting ſundry objections to the Bible. I ſhould have liked him better if he had confined himſelf to punning and playing on his own name, by telling us again and again, that he ſhould ſtill be, at leaſt, a *Clerk*, even though he ſhould never become a *clergyman*. Upon the whole, however, he was, in his way, a man of ſome humour, and an agreeable companion.

"Among other objections to the Scriptures, he ſtarted this one to my travelling companion, whoſe name I now learnt was Maud, that it was told, in the Bible, that God was a *wine-bibber*, and a *drunkard*. On this Mr Maud fell into a violent paſſion, and maintained, that it was utterly impoſſible that any ſuch paſſage ſhould be found in the Bible. Another divine, a Mr Caern, referred us to his abſent brother, who had already been forty years in the church, and muſt certainly know ſomething of ſuch a paſſage, if it were in the Bible, but he would venture to lay any wager his brother knew nothing of it.

"Waiter! fetch a Bible!" called out Mr Clerk, and a great family Bible was immediately brought in, and opened on the table, among all the beer jugs.

"Mr Clerk turned over a few leaves, and in the book of Judges, ixth chapter, verſe 13, he read, "Should I leave my wine, which cheareth God and man?"

"Mr Maud and Mr Caern, who had been before moſt violent, now ſat as if ſtruck dumb. A ſilence of ſome mi-

minutes prevailed, when, all at once, the ſpirit of revelation ſeemed to come on me, and I ſaid, "Why, gentlemen! you muſt be ſenſible, that is but an allegorical expreſſion: and I added, how often, in the Bible, are kings called Gods!"

"Why, yes, to be ſure," ſaid Mr Maud, and Mr Caern, "it is an allegorical expreſſion; nothing can be more clear; it is a metaphor, and therefore it is abſurd to underſtand it in a literal ſenſe." And now they, in their turn, triumphed over poor Clerk, and drank large draughts to my health. Mr Clerk, however, had not yet exhauſted his quiver; and ſo he deſired them to explain to him a paſſage in the prophecy of Iſaiah, where it is ſaid, in expreſs terms, that *God is a barber*. Mr Maud was ſo enraged at this, that he called Clerk an impudent fellow; and Mr Caern again ſtill more earneſtly referred us to his brother, who had been forty years in the church; and who, therefore, he doubted not, would alſo conſider Mr Clerk as an impudent fellow, if he maintained any ſuch abominable notions. Mr Clerk, all this while, ſat perfectly compoſed, without either a ſmile or a frown; but turning to a paſſage in Iſaiah, chapter vii. 20. he read theſe words:—"In the ſame day ſhall the Lord ſhave with a razor, &c. the head, and the hair of the feet; and it ſhall alſo conſume the beard." If Mr Maud and Mr Caern were before ſtunned and confounded, they were much more ſo now; and even Mr Caern's brother, who had been forty years in the church, ſeemed to have left them in the lurch! for he was no longer referred to. I broke ſilence a ſecond time, and ſaid, "Why, gentlemen, this alſo is clearly metaphorical, and it is equally juſt, ſtrong, and beautiful." "Aye, to be ſure it is," rejoined Mr Maud and Mr Caern, both in a breath; at the ſame time rapping the table with their knuckles. I went on, and ſaid, "You know it was the cuſtom for thoſe who were captives to have their beards ſhorn; the plain import, then, of this remarkable expreſſion, is nothing more, than that God would deliver the Jews to be the priſoners of a foreign people, who would ſhave their beards! Aye to be ſure it is; any body may ſee it is; why it is as clear as the day! So it is, rejoined Mr Caern; and my brother, who has been forty years in the church, explains it juſt as this gentleman does."

## REFLECTIONS ON THE NEW YEAR.

THE annual revolution of the ſun, the decline of one year, and the dawn of another, very naturally impreſs the mind with a ſolemn awe, and make it turn inward upon itſelf to review the days that are paſt. Almoſt all nations, both ancient and modern, have concurred in ſolemnizing this ſeaſon. The Athenians inſtituted a ſolemn feſtival, to be obſerved at the new moon, the beginning of every lunar month. When the ſun had completed his revolution, they celebrated his return to the ſame point of his orbit, and the renewal of his journey, with games, and an interchange of preſents and good wiſhes. The Romans, who derived their religion, ſciences, arts, and cuſtoms, from the Greeks, obſerved the firſt and laſt days of the year, which they conſecrated to Janus*, and paid particular attention to the ceremony of wiſhing a *happy new year*. Before the day was ſpent, they not only viſited and congratulated, but preſented *ſtrenæ*, and offered vows to the gods for each other's preſervation.

Although the year, among the many different nations of antiquity, was not begun at the ſame period, (the Roman† January, which was their firſt month, falling, like ours, in the depth of Win-

* On which account it has been ſaid they repreſented him with two faces.

† In this I adopt the calendar, as reformed by Numa from that of Romulus; Julius Cæſar and Pope Gregory VIII. in this reſpect, left it as they found it.

ter;

ter; the Arabian in the Spring; the Macedonian at the Autumnal Equinox; the ancient Athenians at the Winter Solſtice, the more modern at the Summer, &c.): yet we have reaſon to believe, that, at whatever ſeaſon the year was begun, it was always uſhered in by ſome religious ceremony; ſomething, whether it was ſacrifices, games, donations, good wiſhes, or, of whatever nature it might be, ſuitable to the genius of the people; ſomething that impreſſed upon their minds the awful reflections ariſing from a renovation of time, and cauſed them not only to take a retroſpective view of that period which had elapſed, but to draw uſeful inferences from paſt events, to ſerve us a guide or monitor, in future.

Pythagoras, or whoever was the author of the Golden Verſes that paſs under his name, doth not only recommend an annual or monthly examination, but particularly adviſed his ſcholars, every night when they laid themſelves down to reſt, to call themſelves to an account for the actions which had paſſed that day, and inquire in what they had tranſgreſſed, and what good they had done.

If ſuch was the advice of a heathen philoſopher, an advice which numerous ſects, whoſe religion is founded in a great meaſure upon his principles, follow to this hour, would it be too much to hope, that Chriſtians, who have, in the illumination which the Scriptures have diffuſed, lights ſo ſuperior to the erratic and uncertain gleams of the *ignis fatuus* of the ſchools, would proceed upon this ſelf-examination at leaſt once a-year, and that they would chuſe the preſent ſeaſon, which religion and reaſon ſeem to point out as the moſt proper one to begin that work.

It may not here be totally irrelevant to remark, that not only the ſage ‡ juſt mentioned, but Plato and the Chaldean philoſophers, more ancient than either, have adverted to the period at which all nature ſeems to be up-

‡ Pythagoras. Vide Euſebius de Præparat.

on the point of renovation, as a time that demands our particular devotion, our praiſes of, and thankſgivings to, the Firſt Great Cauſe, but have alſo perſonified the ſeaſons, whom they call by ſeveral glorious names, and all of them by the general appellation of *Æons* or *Ages*. The riſing age they termed *Zωὴ*, which is the life; and ſo they proceeded to the other emanations and powers, derived from the dawning, and continued to the maturity and decline of the year‖, each of which they celebrated with particular ſolemnity.

The Jews, in addition to their annual feſtival, had what they called a ſabbatical year; a period when it was ſuppoſed that all nature was at reſt, when the land was left untilled, and the people devoted themſelves to particular acts of humiliation, contrition, and repentance. The ſame ſolemnity might be ſaid to prevail at every return of the Mahometan Hegira, and at every revolution of the Roman *Indiction*.

The firſt day of the year, though leſs conſidered or reſpected as a feſtival in this country, than perhaps in any other part of Europe, was, even here, in times far remote, uſhered in with more ſolemnity than at preſent.

There are, in antient Britiſh writers, many veſtiges to be found, which denote that it was by the court, and conſequently by the people, looked upon as a day ſet apart for, and dedicated to, acts of religion and benevolence; and that it was generally ſpent, as a day ought to be at the ſeaſon, when men not only ſettled their earthly accounts, but opened new ones with heaven, in devotion, liberal offices, and innocent hilarity.

It is a remark of, perhaps, the moſt philanthropic writer and eminent moraliſt that this century has produced, that he had ever conſidered as a peculiar happineſs to the poor, that the feſtival of Chriſtmas fell in the cold and dreary ſeaſon of the year; ſo that, while it

‖ This bears a ſtrong analogy to the mythology of the Gentoos.

turned

turned men's minds to thoughts and acts of benevolence, it rendered that benevolence almoſt doubly acceptable. In the ſame manner, ſince we have, in the middle of this century, adopted the hiſtorical mode of beginning the year*, which is not only a diviſion of time leſs liable to confuſion, and ſuch a one as, indeed, common ſenſe ſeems to have pointed out, but, as Mr Addiſon remarks upon Chriſtmas, it brings a feſtival which may be termed a renovation of our earthly exiſtence, cloſe to that when He was born that hath ſecured our eternal.

In this point of view the hoſpitality of the rich, the donations of the charitable, even the good wiſhes of the poor, are in a pre-eminent degree applicable to this ſeaſon; as they ſeem to be a recognition and combination of that general and diffuſive love which does in ſome, and ought in a ſtill greater, degree to exiſt among all the ſeveral orders and claſſes of mankind, living under the ſame government, enjoying the ſame national liberty, and partaking of the happineſs which ariſes from a conſtitution and laws operating equally upon the rich and the poor, for the protection and preſervation of the whole.

Thinking, as I do, of the many bleſſings which we enjoy, and which, I fear, many enjoy without reflecting that they are bleſſings; it has given me pain to obſerve, even within my own memory, a viſible declenſion of that hoſpitality and benevolence which was formerly, at the period to which I have alluded, the pride and glory of this country. A falſe refinement ſeems to have taken place of the piety and hilarity which were at that ſeaſon ſo prevalent in ancient times; nay, even our good wiſhes toward each other have much decreaſed. To greet any one with "the compliments the ſeaſon," would now, in many companies, mark the formal addreſſer as a ruſtic: and to wiſh any one, above the ſtation of a mechanic, "a happy new year," would be ſuch a ſoleciſm, ſuch a proof of ill-breeding, as no perſon, who had the leaſt regard for the reputation of his gentility, would be hardy enough to riſk.

It muſt, to every thinking mind, be attended with horror, if it reflects upon the enormities that have been crouded into years that have elapſed of the laſt decade of the eighteenth century; and by turning our eyes upon the unhappy country that has been the ſcene of them, ought to make us not only thankful, that, by the prudent and wholeſome meaſures which have been taken, we have avoided the contamination which might have enſued from a colliſion, but render us more attentive to theſe duties which religion and benevolence point out, and which the preſent period, and the preſent ſeaſon, render peculiarly neceſſary; ſo that devotion and hoſpitality, which have, in ſome degree, lain dormant, may revive among us, by adopting thoſe ſentiments which were ſo well practiſed by our anceſtors, and by following thoſe examples which they have left us, to conſider the cloſe of the year as a feſtival intended to draw the bond of union cloſer amongſt Chriſtians, and to prompt them to acts of friendſhip and philanthropy; and the renewal of it as not only the renewal of our exiſtence, but of our gratitude to God, our affection owards our country, and our general good wiſhes to each other.

K.

* William the Conqueror was crowned on the firſt of January, which conſtituted hiſtorians, ſince the Conqueſt, to begin their year from that day, though the ordinary mode of computation was from the 25th of March.

## ANECDOTES OF POLICE.

THE following remarkable anecdotes of the police of France, prior to the commencement of the preſent troubles, are extracted from a Treatiſe on the Police of London, written by Patrick Colquhoun, Eſq; of the Police Office, Shoreditch.

"At the commencement of the troubles in France, it is a curious fact, that the lieu-

Lieutenant-general of the national police, as well as that of the metropolis, had upon his regiſters not leſs than twenty thouſand names of ſuſpected and depraved characters, whoſe purſuits were known to be of a criminal nature, and yet by making this branch of police the immediate object of the cloſe and uniform attention of one branch of the executive government, crimes were much leſs frequent than in England, and the ſecurity extended to the public, with regard to the protection of life and property, againſt lawleſs depredation, was infinitely more. To elucidate this aſſertion, and to ſhew to what a wonderful height the ſyſtem had advanced, the reader is referred to the following anecdotes, which were mentioned to the author by a foreign miniſter of great intelligence and information, who reſided ſome years at the court of France.

" A merchant of high reſpectability in Bourdeaux had occaſion to viſit the metropolis upon commercial buſineſs, carrying with him bills and money to a very large amount.

" On his arrival at the gates of Paris, a genteel-looking man opened the door of his carriage, and addreſſed him to this effect: " Sir, I have been waiting upon you for ſome time; according to my notes you were to arrive at this hour; and your perſon, your carriage, and your portmanteau, exactly anſwering the deſcription I hold in my hand, you will permit me to have the honour to conduct you to M. de Sartine."

" The gentleman aſtoniſhed and alarmed at this interruption, and ſtill more ſo at hearing the name of the Lieutenant of the Police mentioned, demanded to know what M. de Sartine wanted with him; adding, at the ſame time, that he never had committed any offence againſt the laws, and that he could have no right to interrupt or detain him. The meſſenger declared himſelf perfectly ignorant of the cauſe of the detention, ſtating only, that when he had conducted him to M. de Sartine, he ſhould have executed his orders, which were merely miniſterial.

" After ſome further explanations, the gentleman permitted the officer to conduct him to the hotel of the Lieutenant of Police. M. de Sartine received him with great politeneſs; and after requeſting him to be ſeated, to his great aſtoniſhment, he deſcribed his portmanteau, and told him the exact ſum in bills and ſpecie he had brought with him to Paris; where he was to lodge; his uſual time of going to bed; and a number of other circumſtances, which the gentleman conceived could only be known to himſelf. He then put this extraordinary queſtion to him—Sir, Are you a man of courage? The gentleman, ſtill more aſtoniſhed at the ſingularity of ſuch an interrogatory, demanded the reaſon why he put ſuch a ſtrange queſtion, adding, that no man ever doubted his courage. M. de Sartine replied: Sir, you are to be robbed and murdered this night? If you are a man of courage, you muſt go to your hotel, and retire to reſt at the uſual hour; but be car • ! that you do not fall aſleep, neither will it be proper for you to look under the bed, or into any of the cloſets in your bed-chamber (which he accurately deſcribed); you muſt place your portmanteau in its uſual ſituation, near your bed, and diſcover no ſuſpicion—leave what remains to me. If however you do not feel your courage ſufficient to bear you out, I will procure a perſon who ſhall perſonate you, and go to bed in your ſtead. After ſome further explanation, which convinced the gentleman that M. de Sartine's intelligence was accurate in every particular, he refuſed to be perſonated, and formed an immediate reſolution literally to follow the directions he had received. He accordingly went to bed, at his uſual hour, which was eleven o'clock. At half paſt twelve (the time mentioned by M. de Sartine) the door of the bed-chamber burſt open, and three men entered with a dark lanthorn, daggers, and

and piſtols; and the gentleman perceived that one of them was his own ſervant. They rifled his portmanteau undiſturbed, and ſettled the plan of putting him to death. The gentleman hearing all this, and not knowing by what means he was to be reſcued, it may naturally be ſuppoſed, was under great perturbation of mind during ſuch an awful interval of ſuſpenſe, when, at the moment the villains were preparing to commit the horrid deed, four Police Officers, acting under M. de Sartine's orders, who were concealed under the bed and in the cloſet, ruſhed out, and ſeized the offenders with the property in their poſſeſſion, and in the act of preparing to commit the murder."

The other anecdote reſpects the Emperor Joſeph II. who eſtabliſhed what he conceived to be the beſt ſyſtem of Police in Europe. "A very notorious offender, a ſubject of the Emperor, who had committed many attrocious acts of violence and depredation at Vienna, was ſent to Paris, by the police eſtabliſhed by his Majeſty, who ordered his Ambaſſador at the Court of France to demand that this delinquent ſhould be delivered up to public juſtice. M. de Sartine acknowledged to the Imperial Ambaſſador, that the perſon he enquired after had been in Paris; and if it would be any ſatisfaction, he could inform him where he had lodged, and the different gaming tables, and other places of reſort, which he frequented; but that he was now gone.

"The Ambaſſador, after ſtating the accurate and correct mode by which the police of Vienna was conducted, inſiſted that this offender muſt ſtill be in Paris, otherwiſe the Emperor would not have commanded him to make an application. M. de Sartine ſmiled at the incredulity of the Imperial Miniſter, and made a reply to the following effect—Do me the honour, Sir, to inform the Emperor your maſter, that the perſon he looks for left Paris on the 10th day of laſt month, and is now lodged in a back room looking into a garden in the third ſtory of a houſe, number 93, in ——— Street, in his own capital of Vienna, where his Majeſty will, by ſending to the ſpot, be ſure to find him. It was literally ſo as the French Miniſter of the Police had ſtated. The Emperor, to his aſtoniſhment, found the delinquent in the houſe and apartment deſcribed; but he was greatly mortified at this proof of the accuracy of the French police, which in this inſtance in point of intelligence, even in Vienna, was diſcovered to be ſo much ſuperior to his own."

## OBSERVATIONS ON MONARCHIES IN GENERAL, AND THE LATE MONARCHY AND PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE, IN PARTICULAR.

FROM MR BURKE'S TWO LETTERS TO A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

IT is often impoſſible, in our political inquiries, to find any proportion between the apparent force of any moral cauſes we may aſſign, and their known operation. We are therefore obliged to deliver up that operation to mere chance, or more piouſly (perhaps more rationally) to the occaſional interpoſition and irreſiſtible hand of the Great Diſpoſer. We have ſeen ſtates of conſiderable duration, which for ages have remained nearly as they have begun, and could hardly be ſaid to ebb and flow. Some appear to have ſpent their vigour at their commencement. Some have blazed out in their glory a little before their extinction. The meridian of ſome has been the moſt ſplendid. Others, and the greateſt number, have fluctuated, and experienced, at different periods of their exiſtence, a great variety of fortune. At the very moment when ſome of them ſeemed plunged in unfathomable abyſſes of diſgrace and diſaſter, they have ſuddenly emerged. They have begun a new courſe and opened a new reckoning; and even in the depths of their calamity, and on the

the very ruins of their country, have laid the foundations of a towering and durable greatneſs. All this has happened without any apparent previous change in the general circumſtances which had brought on their diſtreſs. The death of a man at a critical juncture, his diſguſt, his retreat, his diſgrace, have brought innumerable calamities on a whole nation. A common ſoldier, a child, a girl at the door of an inn, have changed the face of fortune, and almoſt of nature.

Such, and often influenced by ſuch cauſes, has commonly been the fate of monarchies of long duration. They have their ebbs and their flows. This has been eminently the fate of the monarchy of France. There have been times in which no power has ever been brought ſo low. Few have ever flouriſhed in greater glory. By turns elevated and depreſſed, that power had been, on the whole, rather on the encreaſe: and it continued not only powerful, but formidable to the hour of the total ruin of the monarchy. This fall of the monarchy was far from being preceded by any exterior ſymptoms of decline. The interior were not viſible to every eye: and a thouſand accidents might have prevented the operation of what the moſt clear-ſighted were not able to diſcern, nor the moſt provident to divine. A very little time before its dreadful cataſtrophe, there was a kind of exterior ſplendour in the ſituation of the crown, which uſually adds to government ſtrength and authority at home. The crown ſeemed then to have obtained ſome of the moſt ſplendid objects of ſtate ambition. None of the continental powers of Europe were the enemies of France. They were all, either tacitly diſpoſed to her, or publicly connected with her; and in thoſe who kept the moſt aloof, there was no appearance at all. The Britiſh nation, her great preponderating rival, ſhe had humbled; to all appearance ſhe had weakened; certainly had endangered, by cutting off a very large, and by far the moſt growing part of her empire. In that its *acme* of human proſperity and greatneſs, in the high and palmy ſtate of the monarchy of France, it fell without any of thoſe vices in the monarch, which have ſometimes been the cauſes of the fall of kingdoms, but which exiſted, without any viſible effect on the ſtate, in the higheſt degree in many other princes; and, far from deſtroying their power, had only left ſome ſlight ſtains on their character. The financial difficulties were only pretexts and inſtruments of thoſe who accompliſhed the ruin of that monarchy. They were not the cauſes of it.

Deprived of the old government, deprived in a manner of all government, France, fallen as a monarchy, to common ſpeculators might have appeared more likely to be an object of pity or inſult, according to the diſpoſition of the circumjacent powers, than to the ſcourge and terror of them all: but out of the tomb of the murdered monarchy in France, has ariſen a vaſt, tremendous, unformed ſpectre, in a far more terrific guiſe than any which have yet overpowered the imagination, or ſubdued the fortitude of man. Going ſtraight forward to its end, unappalled by peril, uncheeked by remorſe, deſpiſing all common maxims, and all common means, that hideous phantom overpowered thoſe who could not believe it was poſſible ſhe could at all exiſt, except on the principles, which habit, rather than nature, had perſuaded them were neceſſary to their own particular welfare, and to their own ordinary modes of action. But the conſtitution of any political being, as well as that of any phyſical being, ought to be known, before one can venture to ſay what is fit for its conſervation, or what is the proper means of its power. The poiſon of other ſtates is the food of the new republic. That bankruptcy, the very apprehenſion of which is one of the cauſes aſſigned for the fall of the monarchy, was the capital on which ſhe opened her traffic with the world.

The republic of regicide with an annihilated revenue, with defaced manufactures, with a ruined commerce, with an uncultivated and half depopulated country, with a diſcontented, diſtreſſed, enſlaved, and famiſhed people, paſſing with a rapid, eccentric, incalculable courſe, from the wildeſt anarchy to the ſterneſt deſpotiſm, has actually conquered the fineſt parts of Europe, has diſtreſſed, diſunited, deranged, and broke to pieces all the reſt; and ſo ſubdued the minds of the rulers in every nation, that hardly any reſource preſents itſelf to them, except that of entitling themſelves to a contemptuous mercy, by a diſplay of their imbecility and meanneſs. Even in their greateſt military efforts, and the greateſt diſplay of their fortitude, they ſeem not to hope, they do not even appear to wiſh, the extinction of what ſubſiſts to their certain ruin. Their ambition is only to be admitted to a more favoured claſs in the order of ſervitude under that domineering power.

This ſeems the temper of the day. At firſt the French force was too much deſpiſed. Now it is too much dreaded. As inconſiderate courage has given way to irrational fear, ſo it may be hoped, that through the medium of deliberate ſober apprehenſion, we may arrive at ſteady fortitude. Who knows whether indignation may not ſucceed to terror, and the revival of high ſentiment, ſpurning away the deluſion of a ſafety purchaſed at the expence of glory, may not yet drive us to that generous deſpair, which has often ſubdued diſtempers in the ſtate for which no remedy could be found in the wiſeſt councils.

Other great ſtates, having been without any regular certain courſe of elevation, or decline, we may hope that the Britiſh fortune may fluctuate alſo; becauſe the public mind, which greatly influences that fortune, may have its changes. We are therefore never authoriſed to abandon our country to its fate, or to act or adviſe as if it had no reſource. There is no reaſon to apprehend, becauſe ordinary means threaten to fail, that no others can ſpring up. While our heart is whole, it will find means, or make them. The heart of the citizen is a perennial ſpring of energy to the ſtate. Becauſe the pulſe ſeems to intermit, we muſt not preſume that it will ceaſe inſtantly to beat. The public muſt never be regarded as incurable. I remember in the beginning of what has lately been called the ſeven years war, that an eloquent writer and ingenious ſpeculator, Dr Browne, upon ſome reverſes which happened in the beginning of that war, publiſhed an elaborate philoſophical diſcourſe, to prove that the diſtinguiſhing features of the people of England had been totally changed, and that a frivolous effeminacy was become the national character. Nothing could be more popular than that work. It was thought a great conſolation to us, the light people of this country (who were and are light, but who were not and are not effeminate) that we had found the cauſes of our misfortunes in our vices. Pythagoras could not be more pleaſed with his leading diſcovery. But while in that ſplenetic mood we amuſed ourſelves in a ſour critical ſpeculation, of which we were ourſelves the objects, and in which every man loſt his particular ſenſe of the public diſgrace in the epidemic nature of the diſtemper; while as in the Alps, *goitre* kept *goitre* in countenance; while we were thus abandoning ourſelves to a direct confeſſion of our inferiority to France, and while many, very many, were ready to act upon a ſenſe of that inferiority, a few months effected a total change in our variable minds. We emerged from the gulph of that ſpeculative deſpondency; and were buoyed up to the higheſt point of practical vigour. Never did the maſculine ſpirit of England diſplay itſelf with more energy, nor ever did its genius ſoar with a prouder pre-eminence over France, than at the time when frivolity and effeminacy had been at leaſt tacitly acknowledged as their national character, by the good people of this kingdom.

CU-

## CURIOUS PARTICULARS OF THE CUSTOMS AND MANNERS OF THE NORTHERN INDIANS ON THE BORDERS OF HUDSON'S BAY.

THE girls ars always betrothed when children, but never to thoſe of equal age; which is doubtleſs found policy with people in their ſituation, where the exiſtence of a family depends entirely on the abilities and induſtry of a ſingle man. Children, as they juſtly obſerve, are ſo liable to alter in their manners and diſpoſition, that it is impoſſible to judge, from the actions of early youth, what abilities they may poſſeſs when they arrive at puberty. For this reaſon, the girls are often ſo diſproportionably matched for age, that it is very common to ſee men of 35 or 40 years old have young girls of 10 or 12, and ſometimes much younger. From the early age of eight or nine years, they are prohibited by cuſtom from joining in the moſt innocent amuſements with children of the oppoſite ſex; ſo that when ſitting in their tents, or even when travelling, they are watched and guarded with ſuch an unremitting attention as cannot be exceeded by the moſt rigid diſcipline of an Engliſh boarding-ſchool. Cuſtom, however, and conſtant example, make ſuch uncommon reſtraint and confinement ſit light and eaſy even on children, whoſe tender ages ſeem better adapted to innocent and cheerful amuſements, than to be cooped up by the ſide of old women, and conſtantly employed in ſcraping ſkins, mending ſhoes, and learning other domeſtic duties neceſſary in the care of a family.

Notwithſtanding theſe uncommon reſtraints on the young girls, the conduct of their parents is by no means uniform or conſiſtent with this plan; as they ſet no bounds to their converſation, but talk before them, and even to them, on the moſt indelicate ſubjects. As their ears are accuſtomed to ſuch language from their earlieſt youth, this has by no means the ſame effect on them, it would have on girls born and educated in a civilized country, where every care is taken to prevent their morals from being contaminated by obſcene converſation. The Southern Indians are ſtill leſs delicate in converſation, in the preſence of their children.

Divorces are pretty common among the Northern Indians; ſometimes for incontinency, but more frequently for want of what they deem neceſſary accompliſhments, or for bad behaviour. This ceremony, in either caſe, conſiſts of neither more nor leſs than a good drubbing, and turning the woman out of doors, telling her to go to her paramour, or relations, according to the nature of her crime.

Providence is very kind in cauſing theſe people to be leſs prolific than the inhabitants of civilized nations. It is very uncommon to ſee one woman have more than five or ſix children; and theſe are always born at ſuch a diſtance from one another, that the youngeſt is generally two or three years old before another is brought into the world. They make no uſe of cradles, like the Southern Indians, but only tie a lump of moſs between their legs, and always carry their children on their backs, next the ſkin, till they are able to walk. Though their method of treating young children is, in this reſpect, the moſt uncouth and awkward I ever ſaw, there are few among them that can be called deformed, and not one in fifty who is bow-legged.

There are certain periods at which they never permit the women to abide in the ſame tent with their huſbands. At ſuch times they are obliged to make a ſmall hovel for themſelves at ſome diſtance from the other tents. As this is an univerſal cuſtom among all the tribes, it is alſo a piece of policy with the women, upon any difference with their huſbands, to make that an excuſe for a temporary ſeparation, when, without any ceremony, they creep out (as is their uſual cuſtom on thoſe occaſions) under the eyes of that ſide of the tent

at which they happen to be ſitting; for at thoſe times they are not permitted to go in or out through the door. This cuſtom is ſo generally prevalent among the women, that I have frequently known ſome of the ſulky dames leave their huſbands and tents for four or five days at a time, and repeat the farce twice or thrice in a month, while the poor men have never ſuſpected the deceit, or if they have, delicacy on their part has not permitted them to inquire into the matter. I have known Matonabbee's handſome wife, who eloped from him in May 1771, live thun-nardy, as they call it, (that is, alone) for ſeveral weeks together under this pretence; but as a proof he had ſome ſuſpicion, ſhe was always carefully watched, to prevent her from giving her company to any other man. The Southern Indians are alſo very delicate in this point; for though they do not force their wives to build a ſeparate tent, they never lie under the ſame clothes during this period. It is, however, equally true, that the young girls, when thoſe ſymptoms make their firſt appearance, generally go a little diſtance from the other tents for four or five days, and at their return wear a kind of veil or curtain, made of beads, for ſome time after, as a mark of modeſty, as they are then conſidered marriageable, and of courſe are called women, though ſome at theſe periods are not more than thirteen, while others at the age of fifteen or ſixteen have been reckoned as children, though apparently arrived at nearly their full growth.

On theſe occaſions a remarkable piece of ſuperſtition prevails among them; women in this ſituation are never permitted to walk on the ice of rivers or lakes, or near the part where the men are hunting beaver, or where a ſtringnet is ſet, for fear of averting their ſucceſs. They are alſo prohibited, at thoſe times, from partaking of the head of any animal, and even from walking in, or croſſing the track where the head of a deer, moufe, beaver, and many other animals, have lately been carried, either on a ſledge or on the back. To be guilty of a violation of this cuſtom, is conſidered as of the greateſt importance; becauſe they firmly believe, that it would be a means of preventing the hunter from having an equal ſucceſs in his future excurſions.

Theſe poor people live in ſuch an inhoſpitable part of the globe, that, for want of fuel, they are frequently obliged to eat their victuals quite raw, particularly in the ſummer ſeaſon, while on the barren ground; but early cuſtom and frequent neceſſity makes this practice ſo familiar to them, that, ſo far from finding an inconvenience ariſe from it, or having the leaſt diſlike to it, they frequently do it by choice, and particularly in the article of fiſh: for when they do make a pretence of dreſſing it, they ſeldom warm it through. I have frequently made one of a party which has ſat round a freſh-killed deer, and aſſiſted in picking the bones quite clean, when I thought that the raw brains and many other parts were exceedingly good, and, however ſtrange it may appear, I muſt beſtow the ſame epithet on half raw fiſh. Even to this day, I give the preference to trout, ſalmon, and the brown titterneg, when they are not warm at the bone.

The extreme poverty of theſe Indians in general, will not permit one half of them to purchaſe braſs kettles from the company; ſo that they are ſtill under the neceſſity of continuing their original mode of boiling their victuals in large upright veſſels made of birch rind. As theſe veſſels will not admit of being expoſed to the fire, the Indians, to ſupply the defect, heat ſtones red-hot and put them into the water, which ſoon occaſions it to boil; and, by having a conſtant ſucceſſion of hot ſtones, they may continue the proceſs as long as is neceſſary. This method of cooking, though very expeditious, is attended with one great evil: the victuals thus prepared are full of ſand; for the ſtones thus heated, and then fin-

immerged in the water, are not liable to ſhiver to pieces, but many of them being of a coarſe gritty nature, fall to a maſs of gravel in the kettle, which cannot be prevented from mixing with the victuals.

The tract of land inhabited by the Northern Indians is very extenſive, reaching from the 59th to the 68th degree of north latitude, and from eaſt to weſt it is upwards of 500 miles wide. It is bounded by Churchill River on the ſouth, the country of the Athapuſcow Indians on the weſt, the Dog-ribbed and Copper Indians' country on the north, and by Hudſons Bay on the eaſt. The land, throughout that whole tract of country, is ſcarcely any thing but one ſolid maſs of rocks and ſtones, and in moſt parts very hilly, particularly to the weſtward among the woods. The ſurface, it is very true, is, in moſt places, covered with a thin ſod of moſs, intermixed with the roots of the wee-ſa-ca-puces, cranberries, and a few other inſignificant ſhrubs and herbage; but under it, in general, there is a total want of ſoil, capable of producing any thing except what is peculiar to the climate.

## COMPARISON BETWEEN THE TALENTS OF WOMEN AND MEN.

IT has been a matter of diſpute whether the talents of women are equal to thoſe of men. If we mean by *talents* the power or faculty of writing in proſe or verſe, we at once decide that women are inferior to men, becauſe there have been probably a thouſand male authors for one female.

But, with ſubmiſſion, I would beg leave to ſuggeſt, that we narrow human genius and abilities very much, when we confine them to the bookſeller's ſhop. Are not there many very able ſtateſmen who never write any thing but treaſury-warrants, and receipts for their ſalaries? Nay, do we not admire the vaſt genius of ſome members of parliament, whoſe *forte* is entirely in ſpeaking, and who, when compelled to draw up an addreſs to their independent conſtituents, commit errors that would diſgrace a ſchoolboy? In ſhort, if we have no other way of judging of a man's talents, but by the quantity he publiſhes, either from the preſs or from his mouth, are we not giving all the praiſe to mere *ſaying*; and never reflecting, that an accumulation of words, without correſponding *actions*, is to all neceſſary purpoſes *uſeleſs* and unprofitable?

This being premiſed, and I hope, allowed, we need diſpute no longer about the ſuperiority of the male ſex. The *talents* of the fair ſex, as to all the great and important events of human life, and all the leading tranſactions of kingdoms and ſtates, have ſo far tranſcended what has been attributed to *us*, that were I to compile a new UNIVERSAL HISTORY, however I might avail myſelf of the valuable labours contained in the old, I ſhould certainly entitle it, "A hiſtory of the Power and Influence of the Female Sex, from the fall of Adam to the preſent time." It is the pitiful jealouſy and envy of men which has deprived the ſex of the honours due to them in hiſtory; and likewiſe ſome part of the concealment of their influence, ariſes from the brevity of hiſtories, their authors taking a ſuperficial view of events, and ſeldom troubling themſelves to inveſtigate the ſecret ſprings of human action; whereas, if we will only examine into the minute particulars of great events, the ſecret intrigues of courts, kings, and miniſters, or even of republics, we ſhall always find that the women have had a great ſhare in bringing about political changes, wars, treaties, negotiations, &c. although they, from modeſty probably, content themſelves with acting unſeen and unobſerved, and the men, proud of the ſucceſs of the affair, wiſh to take all the merit to themſelves. Now, ſir, let me aſk you a plain queſtion: which of the two are likely to deſerve moſt fame, and to confer

greater

greater renown on the party, the publiſhing a poem, or bringing about a revolution in a ſtate or nation, perhaps with a few words? which requires greater abilities, to govern a kingdom, or to cajole a bookſeller? to tickle the fancy of love-ſick boys and girls by a novel, or to confound and ſtun half the cabinets of Europe, by a bold ſtroke of invaſion, a maſſacre, and a partition? to write a ballad about a man and woman who never exiſted, or to make the exiſtence of thouſands of men and women miſerable?

But this is not all. It is not enough to appeal to the hiſtory of ancient and modern nations, for proofs of the ſuperiority of woman over man. This, perhaps, is not much in their favour, for a ſuperiority of evil influence is not the preſent conteſt, and would not be very honourable if it were eſtabliſhed. No, Sir, if we wiſh to aſcertain the real and meritorious ſuperiority of female talents, we need not conſult the voluminous records of hiſtory; we need only bring the queſtion home to ourſelves. I ſhall inſtance but in one reſpect, the *power of perſuaſion*. This I take to be the great teſt of genius and talents. He who poſſeſſes this, poſſeſſes every thing; and yet we know that what a man cannot do by whole treatiſes and volumes, by a well connected chain of arguments, and the moſt convincing calculations, is generally done by a woman with a ſmile, a glance of the eye, or a very few words. Sir, we may talk as we pleaſe of our vaſt learning, of our voluminous productions, of our many virtues for which we obtain credit in epitaphs and funeral ſermons: But with what painful efforts do we accompliſh the leaſt of our good actions! and to do a great good is the buſineſs of a long life. What is all our power compared, or, which is more dangerous, put in competition, with a *tear* or a *fit*?

I repeat it, Sir, let us bring the queſtion home to ourſelves. What is it that conſtitutes the felicity of domeſtic life? Is it the wealth we have acquired, the houſe we live in, the equipage that beſpeaks our rank, or the ſervants that bow at our command? No; to uſe an expreſſion of Mr Burke, it is "the dignified obedience, and proud ſubmiſſion" we owe and pay to the female ſex. Our hearts confeſs that they deſerve it, and that we cannot help paying it, and cannot, therefore, help acknowledging their ſuperiority. When we refuſe to pay it, when our minds are in a ſtate of rebellion againſt thoſe lawful ſovereigns, where is it that we dare to breathe ſentiments of a ſeditious tendency! Is it in their preſence? No; a look, a word, awes us into ſubmiſſion; and when we conceive the thoughts of reſiſtance, we fly, like cowards, to ſome ſecret place, to ſome neutral ground, to the deſert heath of celibacy, and the inſulated ſociety of worn-out batchelors, where we may growl our complaints with impunity, and talk of reſolutions which we have not the courage to carry into execution.

Conſcious of the ſuperiority of the female ſex, ſome have lately queſtioned whether they ought not to be admitted into the employments of civil life, for which women ſeem ſo admirably fitted: on this ſubject I mean, at ſome future occaſion, to offer my ſentiments. As women have been admitted to be *Queens*, there ſurely can be no inferior office to which they are inadequate. A very eminent judge lately decided, that a woman might be choſen *overſeer*. The office is but low, indeed, but there have been queens who perhaps wiſhed, at ſome period of their lives, that they had never filled a higher ſtation.

I ſhall not, however, anticipate what I have to offer hereafter on this ſubject. My preſent deſign was merely to hint, that great talents are not neceſſarily ſhown by much writing, and that they may be accounted to poſſeſs the greateſt talents who accompliſh the greateſt purpoſes by few means, which, in my mind, eſtabliſhes the ſuperiority of the fair ſex. *Q. E. D.*

# AN ESSAY ON BIGOTRY

"*In philoſophy and religion, the bigots of all parties are generally the moſt poſitive.*"
WATTS.

AS the following ſentiments on *Bigotry*, have no relation to one party or ſet of opinions more than to another, I hope they will not be unacceptable in a miſcellany which promiſes impartiality; and I truſt they will be found not ill calculated to ſhow, what it is very neceſſary to be acquainted with, that there is a much greater degree of *bigotry* in men's minds than they are aware of.

*Bigotry* is an exceſſive fondneſs for a man's own ſentiments, or for any ſet of opinions, which he ſtands up for with more conceit and zeal than the reaſon and importance of them require. It is uſed by French writers to ſignify hypocriſy and ſuperſtition, to falſe ſhow of zeal, and fondneſs for little things. It commonly reſpects matters of religion, eſpecially the outward circumſtances and minuter appendages of it; and may indifferently relate to what is right or wrong: for an unreaſonable and diſproportionate zeal in a right way, partakes of the nature of this vice, as well as any lower degrees in a wrong. It is ſometimes extended to other matters beſides religion. There is a *bigotry* in politics, in philoſophy, and in common life: the former conſiſts of an adherence to peculiar opinions; the latter is an affectation of ſingularity.

*Bigotry* is often conſtitutional, and ariſes from an unhappy temper or make of mind; or from pride and conceit of ourſelves, over-rating our underſtandings, and making them the meaſure of truth and ſtandard to other men; or from ſelfiſhneſs of mind, an over-care for our own intereſts, and unconcern and diſregard for the welfare of others.

Sometimes *bigotry* proceeds from prejudices of education, or the tincture we receive from the moſt early impreſſions. Sometimes, it may be traced to the converſation of others, eſpecially of one ſort of men.

*Bigotry* is a weed which muſt be rooted up, or it will quickly ruin all the good productions of the ſoil where it grows. It will eat out the heart of religion, and the heart of the country too, if it be not timely checked and deſtroyed. It is vicious in its whole nature, and in all its cauſes and conſequences. It is unmanly, for men to ſhut their eyes againſt the light, and follow others who are in the dark. They neglect the nobleſt gift of God, and the beſt power of their nature; what is moſt eſſential to a rational creature, to think for himſelf, and ſee with his own eyes, and judge according to the beſt information he can get. It is ungenteel; for a *bigot* is always poſitive, and apt to be out of temper, rude and troubleſome. Upon the principle of an obſtinate adherence to a man's own ſentiments, right or wrong, it is impoſſible to keep up mutual civility and decorum. One man has the ſame right to inſiſt as another; and, upon this ſuppoſition, neither muſt yield or give way.

Nor is it leſs unchriſtian; for nothing is more oppoſite to the ſpirit of Chriſtianity, which is all kindneſs and goodneſs, inſpiring the moſt gracious ſentiments of mind, and promoting the good of others. Wherever this humour prevails, there is commonly a great defect of zeal for more important things. It weakens a due regard to the greateſt matters of importance, by dividing it among a great many little ones, as the cutting a river into many channels, weakens its force, and makes it run ſhallow. It is unphiloſophical; for it ſhuts our eyes againſt further light, and confines us to preſent attainments. It is a ſtrong prejudice in our minds againſt new diſcoveries, or impartial inquiry, and cramps all improvements and progreſs in any kind of knowledge; beſide that it endangers men's running into the contrary extreme: for when once men come to ſee themſelves in an

error, and find they were blinded and deceived in a favourite opinion, and which they were taught to think important, they will be very likely to run to the other extreme, or diſtruſt every thing for the future.

The following conſiderations may, if duly attended to, have the effect of ſoftening this unfriendly temper of mind.

And *firſt*, we ought to reflect, that the wiſeſt of us are as fallible as the weakeſt; that we are naturally prone to error; and that he who confides moſt in his own ſtrength and attainments, is frequently the foremoſt to run into errors and abſurdities. It may not be amiſs, alſo, to conſider, that there are very few opinions of mere human invention which have ſtood the teſt of time; that the human mind is daily acquiring new light; that frequently the opinions which we eſpouſed with warmth and eagerneſs when young, have been rejected by us, upon maturer experience with contempt.

We are apt, eſpecially in youth, to prejudge an opinion, and to wiſh it to be true, before we know that it is ſo. This may be owing, either to our taking a too ſuperficial view of it, or to our having been deceived by the artful repreſentations of others. It is aſtoniſhing how many people there are who content themſelves with opinions at ſecond-hand; who, in reading the works of a man who has a *name* in the world, are charmed with his ſtyle, perſuaded by his arguments, and ſubſcribe to his opinions, without giving themſelves time to examine whether the foundations, upon which he has built ſo fine a ſuperſtructure, are ſound. The exclamation is, that is "charming, beautiful, ſublime!" but we ſeldom hear the queſtion, "Is this true? Are theſe facts? Is there no exaggeration, no miſrepreſentation?" In this looſe way men borrow the opinions of others, and deal them out with warmth and obſtinacy too great for oppoſition. To be contradicted, is deemed an inſult; and they are content to continue wrong, from a falſe ſhame, which prevents them from condeſcending to be ſet right.

A *ſecond* remedy for *bigotry* would be to reflect, that, after all the pains we may have taken to inquire into the truth, after viewing the ſubject in all its lights, and liſtening to every argument *pro* and *con*, it is yet poſſible that the concluſion we draw may be wrong. Whoever has attended to the diſputes and controverſies which have raged in Europe, ſince the revival of literature, will ſee how greatly modeſty becomes a man who delivers his opinions to poſterity, who has no more light and knowledge than the age he lives in happens to afford, and who cannot but know that, in the progreſs of the human mind, there is a continual preſſing forward, and an improvement on what is paſt. Beſides, it is not only certain, that the ableſt men, after the faireſt and fulleſt inquiries, are *liable* to miſtakes; but it is as certain that there are none of that deſcription, who have not actually committed miſtakes. One ſingle inſtance of this kind, it is but fair to ſuppoſe, ought to make a man diffident of his acquiſitions, and cautious in his aſſertions. Happy would it be for controverſy, if this were the caſe; if pride and reſentment did not get the better of experience; and if men were diſpoſed to improve the future by the paſt. It would alſo procure a more ſubſtantial gratification to vanity, than ever can ariſe from remaining obſtinate: for the world is pretty generally agreed in venerating the character of a man who confeſſes, and liberally retracts his errors. Thoſe, therefore, who perſiſt in a contrary conduct, muſt derive their applauſe from themſelves only; a ſource neither very laſting, nor honourable.

Having become thoroughly ſenſible of our own fallibility, we ſhall know how to make allowances for the failings of others. We ſhall think it even a duty to addreſs them in the language of mildneſs and forbearance; and however forcibly we may perceive their error, and however abſurd it may appear to

us, we shall not upbraid their ignorance, nor despise their slow advances, but content ourselves with expressing a hope that more mature deliberation will impart to them that conviction which we once required ourselves. Nor shall we be irritated at their warmth, when we recollect that, so opposed, we should ourselves have been once as violent and overbearing. Far less shall we descend to that lowest species of all *bigotry*, the calling of names, and returning evil for evil. Antagonists of this description ought not to write; they ought not to pollute the schools of literature. Their proper weapon is the cudgel, and their proper place the bear-garden.

There will be no difficulty whatever in bearing with the failings of others, when we have learned that we ourselves are fallible. This, therefore, is the first consideration in point of importance. Once attained, all the rest becomes easy. The mind is quiet and tranquil, the temper moderate, and its fruits are "meekness, gentleness, long-suffering."

Another cure for *bigotry* depends on the selection of our company. This requires a free conversation with men of different sorts, and not confining our friendship and confidence to those of any one party; but conversing freely with men of capacity and integrity in the several persuasions among us. This would infallibly open and enlarge the mind, rescue us from abundance of prejudices, and dispose us to enlarged and generous thoughts. Those who are confined to one set of men, generally come into the world with a stingy narrowness, and intemperate heat. To such, promiscuous conversation will be useful, by making them see less reason to lay great stress upon some things, in which perhaps they were right, and to be sensible that other men had more to say for themselves, than they supposed, in things that may be wrong. I believe that much of the political *bigotry* which is prevalent at this time, arises from clubs, into which none are admitted but who are of one opinion, and who agree to brand each other with some nickname, implying every thing that is bad. The associations of men to support certain principles, have appeared to me in a light, in which perhaps they are not generally viewed; and I mention it with diffidence. It appears to me as if they wished to support their principles by the tumultuous approbation of *numbers*, rather than by those cool arguments which are sooner investigated in the closet than in the tavern. One evil certainly flows from them; when a man who has hastily adopted, that is, subscribed to such principles, becomes, on further examination, doubtful of their soundness, he is apt to be branded by the opprobrious name of *Apostate*, although his change of opinion be from real conviction, "from a conviction he has come honestly by."

All obstinacy, however, is not to be censured. To remove any prejudice which may yet remain, when a judgment is deliberately formed, we are not obliged to alter or give it up, upon any other consideration than the clear evidence of a mistake. This, however, is not so much obstinacy, as a degree of constancy and perseverance, which becomes every man, not to part with the least truth, wherever he may have picked it up, without farther light; or even a probable truth, unless upon greater appearance of probability. What appears an important truth may bear hard upon others; it may shame their conduct, and expose their principles to contempt; but it is not to be surrendered on that account. It is in the nature of things, that truth will disgrace error, and that virtue will render vice odious.

Nor should we blame those who are fond of displaying their opinions, as being disposed to differ obtrusively with others. When a man thinks himself in the right, he is not to be censured, because he wishes to bring others over to the same opinion. Let his means be fair, and his language gentle, and he will at least give no offence, if he make no converts.

To conclude: The only probable methods by which the warmth of *bigotry* may be leſſened, are a conviction of our own weakneſs, and a temper conſequently diſpoſed to bear with the errors of others. And it may not be unneceſſary to reflect, that all ſubjects of diſpute are not of equal importance, and that no man's character is neceſſarily involved in the diſpute in which he takes a part, unleſs he chooſes to be preſumptuous and overbearing, to ſtake his reputation upon his aſſertions, and to conſider his enemies as completely vanquiſhed by his prowеſs.

To look at the conduct of controverſial writers in general, one would think that the conteſt was for victory, and not for truth; that all ſubjects were of equal importance, and *that* the higheſt importance; that no more allowance was to be made for a man who differed on the quadrature of the circle, than for him who doubted of the being of a God: and that watering meadows and reforming parliaments, had an equal claim on the iraſcible paſſions. While men thus think more of themſelves than of their ſubject; while pride ſtifles charity, and the hope of conqueſt is paramount to the wiſh to do good; religious, moral, and political controverſy muſt continue to lie under the reproaches which the vain and frivolous have ever caſt upon them. Z.

## TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY OF SCOTLAND.

CONTINUED FROM VOL. LVIII.

### COUNTY OF DUMFRIES.

This large and populous county is about 50 miles in length, and where broadeſt 30. On the north it is bounded by the ſhires of Lanark and Peebles; on the weſt by Kirkcudbrightſhire; on the ſouth by the Solway Frith, which ſeparates it from England; and on the eaſt by the ſhires of Selkirk and Roxburgh. Three rivers give their names to different diſtricts of the county, the Annan, the Nith, and Eſk: hence Annandale, which comprehends the north and eaſt diſtrict; Nithſdale, the weſt parts; and Eſkdale, the moſt eaſterly diviſion.

Sanquhar. This pariſh ſtretches from north to ſouth about 15 miles, from eaſt to weſt between 9 and 10, and contains 2600 inhabitants. The ſituation is elevated, ſtanding near the head of the county; to which there is a gradual riſe from the ſea of near 3000 feet. It may be reckoned amongſt the higheſt land in Scotland. The hills are barren and rugged; their bowels, however, contain great wealth: beſides coal and lime, the mines of Wanlockhead yield immenſe quantities of lead. The variety of limeſtone is conſiderable; one approaching to the hardneſs of marble, others contain numbers of petrified ſhells, chiefly of the cockle ſpecies, others are in plates, or thin ſtrata, of a bluiſh colour, on which are formed impreſſions of ſhells and other bodies. Petrifactions of wood are occaſionally found in the ſtrata of coal. The town of Sanquhar has been long famous for its woollen manufactures; before the American war, it conſiſted chiefly in making coarſe ſtockings for that market: It was not uncommon for one perſon to furniſh 4800 pairs to to one houſe in Glaſgow annually. Of late the carpet manufactory has been their chief employment.

Kirkonnel. This a very extenſive Highland pariſh, nearly 14 miles from north to ſouth, and between 7 and 8 from eaſt to weſt, containing 1000 inhabitants. There is only about 600 acres in tillage, and theſe are in general a light gravelly ſoil. There is coal wrought here: Glenmucleugh hills contain limeſtone; and in Glenwhinny and Bankhead hills there are ſtrong indications of lead. As might be expected there are ſeveral mineral ſprings here; the moſt remarkable is the Ripburn Spa, which from chemical analyſis, ſeems to be of the ſame quality with the Hartfield

field ſpring near Moffat, but much ſtronger; it has often proved very efficacious in ſtomachic complaints, and ſcorbutic caſes. This pariſh yields about 2000l. per annum to the Duke of Queenſberry, who is proprietor of the whole lands, excepting to the extent of about 130l.

DURISDEIR. This pariſh is almoſt ſurrounded with hills; its length is about 8 miles, containing upwards of 1000 inhabitants. The river Nith divides it. The arable part is, in general, fertile, the hills afford good ſheep paſture. There are no minerals wrought; but there are ſtrong indications of coal and alſo of lead; its vicinity to the mines of Leadhills, and Wanlock-head, render this very probable.

PENPONT is a preſbytery ſeat. The pariſh is of very great extent, being upwards of 21 miles long, and 4 broad; it contains about 800 perſons. There is a gradual aſcent from the ſouth eaſt part of the pariſh to the north weſt, which is more that 3500 feet above the the ſea. Cairnkinnow is the higheſt mountain between the friths of Solway and Clyde. The hills are, in general, covered with graſs; the arable land is, upon the whole, light, and capable of improvement, and lets from 18s. to 25s. per acre: the whole yields about 2500l. per annum. Several veſtiges of encampments, and the tract of a Roman cauſeway are to be ſeen here. Though in ſeveral places there are indications of coal, lead, and iron, yet none have been wrought. There is marl in ſeveral marſhes. One of the greateſt natural curioſities, in this part of Scotland, is Clerquhargen Craig. It is compoſed of a dark whinſtone, and rises almoſt perpendicular to 1000 feet. It has two ſides which forcibly ſtrike the eye, no other rock being near it. The moſt conſiderable rivers are the Scarr, the Kin, and the Afton. There are many picturesque and beautiful views in this pariſh.

TYNRON. This pariſh is 10 Scots miles in length, and 2½, at an average, in breadth, and contains 500 inhabitants. The ſurface is a ſtrath, riſing into hills on both ſides, well adapted for paſture; the ſoil is light and ſandy. The rent is 1500l. per annum. A Roman cauſeway runs through the pariſh from eaſt to weſt, and the veſtiges of ſeveral places of ſtrength may alſo be traced. Peat is the chief fuel, there being no coal here. The Doon of Tynron is a beautiful pyramidical hill, on the top of which ſtood an old caſtle: the proſpect from it is very extenſive. In the river Kinnel there is a caſcade worth viſiting, called Aird linn.

MORTON. This pariſh lying on the eaſt ſide of the river Nith, is about 6 miles long, and 3 broad, containing nearly 720 inhabitants. The Duke of Queenſberry is proprietor of almoſt the whole of it, preſently rented at about 750l. The low ground upon the banks of the rivers Nith and Compte are a rich mould; as the ground riſes to the eaſt, it is lighter, but capable of much improvement. The introduction of the woollen manufacture would be of great conſequence here, wool being the ſtaple article of the country.

KEIR is about 8 miles long, the breadth various, from 2 to 3; containing 520 inhabitants. More than one third of this pariſh is hilly; the ſoil of the low grounds is in general light, upon a gravelly bottom, and tolerably fertile. The yearly rent may be eſtimated at 1500l. Sterling. This pariſh is watered by the rivers Nith and Scarr, and is adorned with a conſiderable extent of natural wood, as well as planting. There is lime ſtone on the eſtate of Barjarg; but the diſtance from coal (14 miles) is felt as a great diſadvantage.

DUNSCORE. This pariſh is very irregular in its breadth, the length of it is 12 miles, containing above 1000 perſons. The river Nith runs through part of it. The ſoil of the flat grounds is rich; from the river ſide it riſes gradually, terminating in rocky hills. It is ſomewhat remarkable, that there are

no less than 43 heritors in this parish, 26 of whom reside in it. Peats are the only fuel found in the parish.

CLOSEBURN. This parish was united to Dalgarno in 1697. The two form nearly a square, the extremities of which measure from 9 to 10 miles; the number of inhabitants is nearly 1500. The river Nith waters this parish for 5 or 6 miles, along which the soil is a fine rich loam. The eastern district is unfit for tillage, but affords good sheep pasture. The total rental is 3,500l. There is no coal nearer than 14 miles; but the limeworks at Closeburn have proved very beneficial to agriculture. Over Corry hill is 200 feet above the level of the sea. As a great natural curiosity, Crichup Linn deserves notice. By a beautiful cascade of between 80 and 90 feet, the water of Crichup has hollowed out a basin 20 feet deep, in a [illegible] rock; forming altogether a linn, measuring from top to bottom about 120 feet, which is very picturesque and romantic. Near the [illegible] there is a mineral well of a sulphureous quality.

CORSOCK is one of the most considerable parishes in the south for extent and population; its length is about 14 miles. The number of inhabitants is 1500. The river Cairn runs through the parish; besides being watered by several rivers there is a beautiful lake, called Lochore, 3 miles in circumference. The soil is, in general, good; on the banks of the rivers it is rich and fertile; the whole produces between 8000l. and 9000l. per annum. The great distance from coal is much felt in this quarter.

KIRKMAHOE. This small parish is of a very irregular form, and contains nearly 1200 inhabitants. To the north and east it is hilly; where the ground is flat the soil is good, renting from 20s. to 30s. per acre; the whole producing about 3000l. Sterling. The spirit of improvement began in this parish after the 1750, and is now going on rapidly. Dalwinton, the elegant seat of Mr Miller, is situated in this parish.

TINWALD. The form of this parish is an oblong, of 6 miles by 4, containing 850 inhabitants. The soil is, where arable, capable of great improvements by lime; the best rents from 18s. to 25s. producing, in whole, about 2530l. per annum. In Locher moss, which is about 12 miles long and 3 broad, vessels and utensils of great antiquity are occasionally found. Paterson, famous for being the planner of the Bank of England, and the Darien scheme, was a native of this parish. He had represented the burgh of Dumfries, &c. more than once in the Scotch Parliament. In the same house was also born Dr Mounsey, his grandnephew, first physician for many years to the late Empress of Russia.

HOLYWOOD. This parish is an oblong, about a mile and a half broad, but extending along the river Nith, nearly 10 miles; its inhabitants are 736 persons. It is, in general, flat, lying in the middle of a broad valley. The ground on the banks of the rivers Nith and Cluden is a deep rich loam; a considerable part is light and gravelly; the higher parts are a stiff clay; the rent of the best is about 30s. the whole yields about 3000l. per annum. There are neither minerals nor manufactures in this parish.

KIRKMICHAEL is 10 miles in length, and about 4 in breadth, containing 950 inhabitants. The greater part of this parish is rather barren, and much of it uncultivated, the north-west corner being hilly. The banks of the rivers Ae and Kinnell, however, are very fertile. The rent is about 2300l. per annum. There are to be seen here the remains of some fortified places, where Roman utensils have been found. No minerals are wrought, though the number of chalybeate springs indicate the existence of iron in many places.

DUMFRIES. The extent of this parish is 6 miles long, and from 2 to 3 broad, containing about 7000 inhabitants,

tants, 5600 of whom reſide in the town of Dumfries. It is part of an extenſive vale, ſpreading towards the Solway frith. Some hills ariſe in the ſouth eaſt, but theſe are inconſiderable in height, and are all planted or cultivated to the top. The ſoil of the north eaſt ſide of the pariſh is a reddiſh earth, upon a red freeſtone bottom; that on the ſouth-weſt is, in general, a pretty ſtrong loamy clay. The improvements, in agriculture, of late years have been great. A mile to the eaſt of the town ſtands the *Maiden Lower Craig*, a curiouſly hollowed rock, ſaid to have been famous in the days of Druidiſm. The town of Dumfries is a royal burgh, the capital of the ſhire, and the ſeat of a preſbytery and a ſynod; it ſtands pleaſantly on the river Nith, about 9 miles above where that river empties itſelf into the Solway frith; but veſſels of conſiderable burden can lie near the town. Dumfries is a neat well built town of conſiderable extent; its inhabitants have long been noted for their hoſpitality and the urbanity of their manners. The town is very antient, as the remains of ſeveral caſtles and places of ſtrength, with other ruins, teſtify. Dumfries has given birth to ſeveral men of eminence, in the learned profeſſions. Of theſe the late Andrew Creſbie, Eſq; Advocate, Dr Wight, late Profeſſor of Divinity in Glaſgow, and Dr Gilchriſt, may be mentioned.

Caerlaverock. This pariſh is a ſort of peninſula, formed by the Solway frith, the Nith and Lochar waters, about 6 miles long and 2 broad. The number of its inhabitants is about 550. The ground is flat on the eaſt, and riſes gradually to the weſt; the whole tolerably fertile and well cultivated; the beſt renting at 20s. or 21s. per acre, the whole yielding 2150l. Sterling. Dr John Hutton who was firſt phyſician to King William and Queen Mary, was a native of this pariſh, to whom it has been indebted for ſeveral liberal benefactions. Sundry veſtiges of moats and encampments are pointed out by the inhabitants.

Lochmaben. This pariſh extends along the banks of the Annan about 10 miles, its breadth is 3. The number of inhabitants is 3000. The ſoil on the banks of the rivers, is rich and fertile; the farms are ſmall, none above L. 80 per annum. The feeding of ſwine is a conſiderable article of huſbandry. The town is a royal burgh, and ſuppoſed to be very ancient. The chief manufacture is linen. There is the ſite of a very old caſtle, near the town, originally the ſeat of Robert Bruce, Lord of Annandale, before that family came to the crown. There are ſeven lochs in the pariſh, the largeſt, *Caſtle Loch*, contains 15 or 16 different kinds of fiſh, one of which very much reſembles a herring; it is called Vendiſe, and is eſteemed remarkably delicate, but is to be found no where elſe. Several attempts have been made to tranſport them to other lochs, tho' without ſucceſs. It being found, by experience, to die whenever it is touched. The largeſt and ſtrongeſt caſtle of any on the borders of the two kingdoms, excepting Carliſle, ſtands upon a peninſula in this loch; it was built by King Robert the Firſt, and before the invention of fire arms might juſtly be deemed impregnable. The Barony of Lochmaben, or the Four towns (as it is called), is held by the the ſame tenure as crown-lands in Orkney and Zetland, viz. *Udal*, that is without charter or ſaſine. The property being transferred ſimply by delivery and poſſeſſion. The diſtance from coal and lime is a conſiderable hindrance to improvement here.

Mouswald. This pariſh is from north to ſouth, between 4 and 5 miles, in breadth about 2; containing about 630 inhabitants. The ſurface may be conſidered as flat, upon the whole, there being no riſing grounds which the plough does not reach. In the higher parts, the ſoil is light and ſandy, the

low

low grounds are wet and marshy, the best rents at 21s. per acre; there is a good deal of thriving wood in this parish. The great military road from Carlisle to Port-patrick runs through it. Both coal and lime are brought at a great distance.

Ruthwell. This parish extends from east to west 6 miles along the Solway frith, in breadth it is about 3, and contains nearly 1060 inhabitants. The soil is in general light and sandy; the annual rent of it is about 1600l. Since the discovery of lime in the parish it has been considerably improved. There are appearances of coal in various places, and seeing it is wrought on the opposite shore in Cumberland, the failures in finding it may reasonably be attributed to want of skill in searching. At Brow there is a chalybeate spring in great repute. The inhabitants of this parish are privileged to collect and make salt in the bay, duty free, which they are in the use of doing in the summer season; so far as we know, this is the only instance of the kind in Scotland.

Torthorwald. This parish lies along the river Locher, and contains nearly 550 inhabitants. The soil, in the west part, is low, being part of the Locher moss; towards the east the ground rises in pretty high hills. From Beacon hill there is one of the most extensive prospects to be met with in this part of the country. The rent of the best arable land is 23s. and of the worst 10s. per acre, producing nearly 2500l. per annum. The vestiges of 2 Britith camps, and the ruins of an old castle, are still to be seen.

Middlebie. This consists of three united parishes, being 9 miles long and upwards of 4 broad, and containing nearly 1400 persons. The ground is, upon the whole, pretty level, having some gently rising hills interspersed. The soil is in general a strong clay upon a tilly bed; the best gives 20s. per acre. There is limestone wrought here, which is of great benefit to the county. The freestone is of a red colour, and answers well for building. Near the church the vestiges of a Roman work are to be seen.

Hoddam. The parish of Hoddam is 5 miles long and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ broad, containing nearly 1200 persons. It is watered by the Annan, the Milk, and the Mein. It consists partly of high, and partly of low ground; that on the banks of the rivers is fertile, the higher inclines much to clay. The whole is in a rapid state of improvement, to which the great roads from Edinburgh and Glasgow to the south, have contributed much. There is lime in the neighbourhood but no coal.

Dalton. The extent of this parish is, in length 4, and breadth 3 miles, containing 650 persons. The soil is chiefly a light sandy loam, very capable of improvement; at present the rent is about 1700l. Sterling. There is neither coal nor lime here; peats are almost the only fuel.

Cummertrees. This parish is 4 miles long and 3 broad, but its figure is very irregular; it contains about 850 persons. The whole extent is 7800 acres, yielding 2800l. Sterling of rent. Its situation is low, upon the Solway frith. The soil is various; but in general rich and fertile, excepting the banks of the frith which are sandy. Husbandry here has been much indebted to the lime quarries of Killhead, which is of an excellent quality. Sometimes veins are found in it so hard as to take a fine polish, it is of a dark spotted colour, beautified by the admixture of shells and other petrifactions. Hoddam castle, the residence of Mr Sharp, is situated here; it is an antient structure, and still very entire.

Ewes is a pretty extensive parish, 8 miles in length, and upwards of 5 in breadth, but contains only 320 inhabitants. The Duke of Buccleugh is sole proprietor of the lands in this parish, which yields him about 2000l. per annum of gross rental. The greatest part of the land is pasture.

(*To be continued.*)

ALLE-

# ALLEGORIES AND PARABLES.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF M. HERDER *.

SLEEP.

AMONG the choir of countleſs Genii, whom Jupiter created for men, in order to ſuperintend and to bleſs the ſhort period of a painful exiſtence, was the dim Sleep. "What have I to do, (ſaid he, ſurveying his duſky form) in the midſt of my dazzling brethren? ſadly I look in the band of the Sports, of the Joys, and of the Loves! it may be that I am welcome to the unhappy, whom I lull to oblivion of their cares: it may be that I am welcome to the weary, whom I do but ſtrengthen to new toil: but to thoſe who are neither weary nor woe-begone, whom I only interrupt in the circle of their joys—

"Thou erreſt, (ſaid the father of Genii and of men) thou, in thy duſky form, ſhalt be a genius dear to all the world. Doſt thou not think that ſports, and joys fatigue? In truth they tire ſooner than care and want, and bequeath to their pampered hoſt the moſt irkſome ſloth. And even thou, (continued Jupiter) ſhalt not be without thy pleaſures, but ſhalt often ſurpaſs therein the whole company of thy brothers." With theſe words he reached out the grey horn full of pleaſing dreams: "Hence (added he) ſcatter thy popey ſeeds, and the happy no leſs than the miſerable of mankind will wiſh for thee, and love thee above all thy brethren. The hopes, the ſports, and the joys, herein contained, were caught by the charmed fingers of thy ſiſters the Graces, on the moſt redolent meads of paradiſe. The etherial dews that glitter on them will image to every one, whom thou would bleſs, his own wiſh; and, as the goddeſs of Love has ſprinkled them with celeſtial nectar, their forms will be radiant with a glowing grace, which the cold realities of earth cannot attain. From amid the roſy band of the Pleaſures, gladly will men haſten to thy arms. Poets will ſing of thee, and ſtrive to rival thy enchantments in their ſongs. Even the innocent maid ſhall wiſh for thee, and thou wilt hang on her eye-lids a ſweet, a welcome god."

The complaint of Sleep was changed into thankfulneſs and triumph, and he was united to the loveliеſt of the graces —to Paſithea.

---

THE CHOICE OF FLORA.

WHILE Jupiter was ſummoning the creation, which he meditated in ideal forms before him, he beckoned, and Flora appeared among the reſt. Who can deſcribe her charms, who can image forth her beauty? Whatever the earth ſhowers from her virgin lap was mingled in her ſhape, her colour, her drapery. All the gods gazed on her delighted, all the goddeſſes envied her beauty.

"Chooſe for thyſelf a paramour," ſaid Jupiter, "out of this numerous band of Divinities and Genii: but beware not to chooſe idly."

Flora looked about with levity. Oh that ſhe had choſen the beautiful Phœbus, who was enraptured with the love of her! but his beauty was too ſublime for her. Her buſy look wandered around, and ſhe choſe (who could have thought it?) one of the loweſt of the gods, the fickle Zephyr!

"Inconſiderate! (ſaid the father) that thy ſex, even in intellectual forms, ſhould prefer ſhowy glittering charms to the calm energy of the higheſt love! Hadſt thou choſen him, (pointing to Phœbus) thou and thy progeny would have participated his immortality."

Zephyr embraced her, and ſhe diſappeared. She flew in the form of flower-duſt into the region of the god of air.

When Jupiter realized the ideal forms of this univerſe, and the lap of earth was prepared to receive the ſeeds of vegetation, he called to Zephyr, who was ſlumbering over the aſhes of his beloved.

"Awake

* As German Literature is coming into requeſt, we ſhall, from time to time, preſent our readers with extracts from the tranſlations of works of merit.

"Awake, youth, and bring with thee thy beloved, and behold her earthly appearance." Zephyr came with the flower-duſt, and ſcattered it over the ſurface of the earth. Phœbus recollected his love, and conferred on it animation. The goddeſſes of ſprings and ſtreams watered it with ſiſterly affection. Zephyr claſped it, and Flora appeared in a thouſand motely ſpringing flowers.

How glad was each to find again its celeſtial lover, to lean towards his playful kiſſes, and to cradle on his wavering arm. Short lived bliſs! As ſoon as the fair had opened her boſom, and had dreſſed her nuptial bed in all the pomps of hue and fragrance, the ſatiate Zephyr abandoned her; and Phœbus pitying her diſappointed love, put an early end to her grief with his conſuming beam!

Every ſpring, ye maids, begins anew the ſame hiſtory. Ye bloom, like Flora: chooſe not ſuch a lover as Zephyr.

---

AURORA.

AURORA was complaining to the gods that, although ſhe was much praiſed by men, ſhe was little beloved or viſited by them, and leaſt by thoſe who loudeſt ſang her praiſes. "Do not grieve about thy lot (ſaid the goddeſs of wiſdom) is it not the ſame as mine? and then, (continued ſhe) look at thoſe who ſlight thee, and at thy rival whom they prefer. Behold them, as thou paſſeſt, floundering in the embrace of lazineſs, and decaying both in body and mind; and haſt thou not friends, not adorers enow? The whole creation worſhips thee; all the flowers awake and clothe themſelves by thy roſeate beam in new and bridal beauty. The choir of birds welcomes thee, and ſeems intent wholly on varied arts to charm thy tranſient preſence! The laborious boor, and the induſtrious ſage, never diſappoint thee; they quaff, from the cup which thou offereſt, health, and ſtrength, repoſe and life: doubly pleaſed that they enjoy thee undiſturbed and uninterrupted by the prating crowd of ſleeping fools. Doſt thou conſider it as no bleſſing that the unworthy are never ſeen among thy admirers? To be worſhipped without profanation is the higheſt prize of love among the gods and men."

Aurora bluſhed at her thoughtleſs murmurs. Let every beauty aſpire to her fortune, who equals her in purity and innocence.

---

THE VINE.

ON the day of their creation, the trees boaſted one to another of their excellence. "Me the Lord planted," ſaid the lofty cedar, "ſtrength, fragrance, and longevity, he beſtowed on me."—"The goodneſs of Jehovah faſhioned me to be a bleſſing," ſaid the ſhadowy palm; "utility and beauty he united in my form." The apple-tree ſaid: "Like a bridegroom among youths I glow in my beauty, amid the trees of the grove." The myrtle ſaid: "Like the roſe among briars, ſo am I amid other ſhrubs." Thus all boaſted; the olive and the fig tree, and even the fir.

The vine alone drooped ſilent to the ground: "To me, (thought he) every thing ſeems to have been refuſed: I have neither ſtem, nor branches, nor flowers: but ſuch as I am I will hope and wait." He bent down his ſhoots and wept.

Not long had he to wait: for behold the divinity of earth, man, drew nigh. He ſaw the feeble helpleſs plant trailing its honours along the ſoil. In pity, he lifted up the recumbent ſhoots, and twined the feeble plant about his own bower;—and now the winds played with its leaves and tendrils, and the warmth of the ſun began to empurple its hard green grapes, and to prepare within them a ſweet and delicious juice, the repaſt and the drink of gods and of men. Decked with its rich cluſters, the vine now leaned toward his maſter, who taſted its refreſhing fruit and juicy beverage, and named the vine his friend, his grateful favourite!

Then the proud trees envied the vine, for behold they ſtood barren and ne-

neglected: but he rejoiced in his humble growth and his perfevering patience; and ſtill his juice enlivens the heart of the faſt, lifts the ſinking courage, and inſpires to perſeverance and exertion.

Deſpair not, ye forſaken; bear, wait, and ſtrive. From the inſignificant reed flows the ſweeteſt of juices: from the bending vine ſprings the moſt delightful drink of the earth.

---

THE DEATH OF ADAM.

NINE hundred and thirty years old was Adam, when he felt in his bones the ſentence of the judge "thou ſhalt ſurely die."

To Eve, who ſorrowed greatly, he ſaid: "Let all my ſons come around me, that I may behold and bleſs them,"—and they came, as their father had bidden, and ſtood around him, many hundreds in number, and wept, and prayed for his life.

"Who of you, (ſaid Adam) will go to the holy hill? Perhaps he may obtain mercy in my behalf, and bring me fruit from the tree of life." All his ſons offered to go: but Seth, the moſt pious of them, was appointed by his father to accompliſh this errand.

His head ſtrown with aſhes, Seth haſtened and ſtayed not until he ſtood at the gates of paradiſe. There he prayed, ſaying: "Let Adam find favour in thy ſight, O All-merciful! ſend my father of the fruit of the tree of life." Suddenly a meſſenger of God, a ſhining cherub, ſtood before him, holding in his hand, inſtead of the fruit, a three-leaved twig;—and he ſaid mildly: "Take this unto thy father for his laſt conſolation: eternal life is not for him on this earth. Haſten; for his hour is come."

Swift as an angel of conſolation, Seth haſtened, and proſtrated himſelf, and ſaid: "No fruit from the tree of life do I bring thee, O my father! but this branch which the angel gave to me for thy laſt conſolation." The dying man took the bough, and was glad. He ſmelled thereon the odours of paradiſe, and his ſoul was lifted up: "My children, (ſaid he) eternal life dwells not for us on this earth: I am dying, and ye muſt follow:—but on this ſhrub I ſcent the odours of a higher world, the fragrance of a purer paradiſe." Then his eyes were glazed, and his ſpirit departed from him.

The ſons of Adam buried their father, and mourned for him thirty days:—but Seth wept not. He planted the twig on his father's grave, near the place of his head, and called it the tree of reſurrection from the dead.

The branch became a ſpreading tree, and all the children of Adam were comforted under it; becauſe therewith came the promiſe of revival from the ſleep of death;—and it deſcended to their children's children, and was ſeen in David's garden; until his miſled ſon began to doubt of his immortality:—then the tree withered:—but ſhoots thereof were multiplied in many nations.

At length, on a ſtem of this tree, the Teacher of immortality reſigned his hallowed life; and, behold, the fragrant hopes of reſurrection are thence ſpread abroad among all the nations of the earth.

## THE EXCELLENT WIFE*.

MRS BARNET, wife of Mr George Barnet, who lived at no great diſtance from London, had been in town to put her daughter to a boarding ſchool.

She had taken a poſt chaiſe, that the chariot might remain for the uſe of her huſband, whoſe conſtant cuſtom it was to drive out every day before dinner, to acquire an appetite, the only ſenſible reaſon which, in Mr Barnet's opinion, any man in eaſy circumſtances could have for being at the trouble of exerciſe.

As Mrs Barnet returned from town, the poſt-chaiſe broke down in the middle of the road—a ſtage-coach came up

* From "Edward. Various Views of Human Nature, taken from Life and Manners, chiefly in England." By Dr Moore.

at the inſtant that Mrs Barnet and her maid got ſafely out of the poſt-chaiſe; the coachman knew Mrs Barnet, and his courſe being directly through a village contiguous to her huſband's houſe, he ſtopped, and offered to ſet her down at her own door. Mrs Barnet perceiving that it would take a conſiderable time before the chaiſe could be mended, agreed to the coachman's propoſal, and deſired her maid to put a ſmall bundle into the coach.

"Lard, ma'am!" cried the maid, as ſoon as ſhe had peeped into the coach, "here is a frightful old woman and a beggarly looking boy—you cannot poſſibly go in here."

"As for the old woman and the boy," ſaid the coachman, "although they are ſitting within, they are no more than outſide paſſangers—for as ill luck would have it, I chanced to have none within; ſo when the rain came on, I took pity on the boy, and deſired him to take ſhelter in the coach, which he refuſed, unleſs the old woman was allowed to go in alſo: ſo as the boy, you ſee, is a very pretty boy I could not bear that he ſhould be expoſed to the rain, and ſo I was obliged to let in both; but now, to be ſure, if her ladyſhip inſiſts on it, they muſt both go on the outſide, which will be no great hardſhip, for it begins to grow fair."

"Fair or foul, they muſt get out directly," ſaid the maid: "do you imagine that *my* miſtreſs will ſit with ſuch creatures as theſe, more particularly in ſuch a dirty machine?"

"Hark you, young woman," ſaid the coachman, "you may ſay of the old woman and the boy what you pleaſe, they do not belong to me; but as for the coach, it is *my* coach, and I would have you to know, bears as good a reputation as any on the road, perhaps a better than your own: ſo I would not adviſe you for to go for to ſlander the character of thoſe who are ſaying nothing againſt yours: But as for you, my dear, you muſt come out," continued he, taking the boy by the arm, "ſince this here gentlewoman inſiſts upon it."

"By no means," ſaid Mrs Barnet; "let the child remain, and the woman alſo; there is room for us all."

So ſaying, ſhe ſtepped into the coach; the maid followed, and the coachman drove on.

This arrangement was highly diſagreeable to the maid, who ſeemed greatly mortified at being ſeated near a woman ſo meanly dreſſed.

Mrs Barnet on the other hand, was pleaſed with the opportunity of accommodating the poor woman and boy—for this lady was of a benevolent diſpoſition and although ſhe was moſt uncommonly free from vanity, yet if all the maid's ſtock had been divided between them, the miſtreſs and maid together would have made a couple of very vain women.

Mrs Barnet was rather in low ſpirits, owing to her being ſeparated now, for the firſt time in her life, from her daughter; the old woman, on the contrary, being delighted with her ſituation in the coach, was in high ſpirits, and much diſpoſed to ſhare them with all the company.

She made repeated attempts to draw Mrs Barnet into converſation, but without ſucceſs; for although from a civility of diſpoſition which never forſook her, ſhe anſwered with affability all the woman's queſtions, ſhe always relapſed into ſilence.

The old woman was ſurpriſed as well as diſappointed at this, ſhe never in the courſe of her life had met with ſo ſilent a woman, and thinking it next to impoſſible that ſhe ſhould ſtumble upon two on the ſame day, in the ſame coach, of the ſame diſpoſition, ſhe ventured to addreſs the maid in ſpite of her repulſive looks, ſaying, "Pray, miſtreſs, as the ſun begins to break out, do you not think it will turn out a good day?"

In this attempt to lead the maid into converſation, ſhe was ſtill more unſucceſsful than ſhe had been with the miſtreſs; for although the former did not partake of the latter's dejection of ſpirits, and had no kind of averſion in general to talking, yet ſhe deemed a perſon dreſſed as this poor woman was, far beneath her anſwering, therefore ſurveying the woman's ruffled gown with contempt, and at the ſame time bruſhing the duſt from the ſleeves of her own, which was of ſilk, with an elevated noſe and projected under lip, ſhe turned her diſdainful eyes to the other ſide, without making the poor woman any anſwer.

Baffled in all her attempts to provoke a converſation, and quite unable to hold her tongue, as a laſt recourſe the old woman began to talk with the boy.

His prattle ſoon diſturbed the meditations and attracted the attention of Mrs Barnet, who at length aſked the old woman,

woman, what relation the boy was to her.

Pleased with this opportunity of giving freedom to her tongue, she answered with great rapidity, and almost in one breath, "relation to me! All my relations are dead, please your ladyship, except my nephew, the pawn-broker in Shug-lane, who is grown so rich and so proud, that he hardly speaks to me; but as for that there boy I never saw him in my life, till this here blessed day, when I received him from the overseers of the work house, to take him to my own house in the country; where I already have six children all boarded at the rate of poor three shillings a week, which your ladyship must acknowledge is too little in all conscience for my trouble and expence; but the hearts of those who take care of the poor of some parishes, are as hard as the very church walls. Now, please your ladyship, this poor child, it seems, was lately ill of the influenza, and cannot be put out to a trade till he grows stronger. And so they gave him to me with the other children, for the benefice of country air; which I do assure your ladyship does quite and clean the contrairy of doctors drugs, for it recovers the health of the children, and gives them all a monstrous appetite, as I am sure I finds to my cost—and so—if so be as——"

"Pray, who are his parents?" said Mrs Barnet interrupting the old woman's fluency, which she saw was inexhaustible.

"The Lord above, he only knows," replied the old woman; "for they told me he was brought to the work-house when he was only a few months old; the parish officers received him from a poor woman, who said she was not his mother but his name was Edward Evelin; but who was his mother, is difficult to tell; and still more, who was his real father, as your ladyship well knows, for they have never been found out; but it stands to reason, that he must have had both; for I never heard of any body who had neither father nor mother, except Michael Hissendeck, of whom the parson of our parish preached last Sunday; but Michael lived in the Bible days, which is different from these here times; so this boy's parents must be persons unknown; but be who they will, I suspect that they were no better than they should be: in which case it is pretty clear that this here boy, saving your ladyship's presence, is neither more nor less than an unnatural child; for if he had been born in the natural way of marriage, it stands to reason that his parents would have owned him long ago."

Mrs Barnet, affected with the condition of this boy, who began life under such unfavourable auspices, said, "Are you not sorry, my dear, to leave home?"

"No," answered he; "I don't care."

"Is there not somebody at home whom you are sorry to leave?" returned she.

"No," replied the boy;" I am not sorry to leave any body."

"What, not those who are good to you?" rejoined she.

"Nobody was ever good to *me*," said the boy.

Mrs Barnet was touched with the child's answers, which strongly painted his helpless lot, and the cruel indifference of the world. She thought of her own child now, for the first time, left to the care of strangers, and the tear stood in her eye.

"My poor little fellow," said she, after a short pause, "was *nobody* ever good to you?"

"No!" answered he, "they are good only to the mistress' son."

"And have you no friend, my dear?" added she with a sigh.

"No! for old Robin the footman died last week."

"Was he your friend?"

"Yes, that he was," replied the boy; "he once gave me a piece of gingerbread."

Mrs Barnett could not help smiling at the expressive simplicity of the answer, and felt herself so much interested in him, and so much affected at seeing so fine a child thrown as it were at random on the world, that while she yet smiled, the tears flowed from her eyes—which the boy observing, and mistaking their cause, said, "I fell a-crying myself, when I heard that poor old Robin was dead."

"That was like a good boy," said Mrs Barnett.

"No, it was like a naughty boy;" said he, "and the matron whipt me for it."

"My poor dear little fellow," exclaimed Mrs Burnet, "that was hard indeed!"

"It is very right howsomever, ma-

dam,

dam," faid the old woman, "that children ſhould be whipt for crying; if I did not make that a conſtant rule at my houſe, there would be nothing but ſqualling from morning to night—for I'll tell you, as how I always ſerves them there little chits, whenever they begins to make a noiſe—I takes them—"

Here the old woman was interrupted by the ſtopping of the coach at the part of the common where ſhe was to get out and walk to her own houſe.

Mrs Barnet warmly recommended the boy to her care, putting at the ſame time a guinea into her hand, and adding that ſhe would perhaps call upon her ſometimes, and would reward her more liberally if ſhe found that the boy was treated with kindneſs.—The old woman having promiſed to treat him kindly, led him away, and the coach drove on.

The forlorn condition of this poor boy, deſtitute of father, mother, relation, or protector, ſo ſtrongly awakened the humane feelings of Mrs Barnet, that her thoughts were divided between him and her own child for the remainder of the way; and when ſhe arrived at her own houſe, after giving her huſband a particular account of every thing relative to the eſtabliſhment of his daughter, ſhe began the hiſtory of the workhouſe boy; but ſhe had not proceeded far, when Mr Barnet haſtily rung the bell to know whether dinner was near ready, ſaying, "that he had eaten little or nothing ſince his breakfaſt, and indeed not a great deal then, owing to the carleſneſs of the maid, who had not put butter enough upon the toaſt." "Why did you not order her to make ſome more, my dear?" ſaid Mrs Barnet. "Becauſe," replied he, "I did not obſerve it till I could eat no more."

"I am ſorry for it," ſaid Mrs Barnet; "but I hope you have had ſomething ſince."

"Very little," replied he; "for I was put ſo out of humour with the toaſt, that I have had little or no appetite until now."

"That is provoking, indeed," ſaid Mrs Barnet, in a ſympathiſing tone of voice. "But here comes the dinner, and I truſt you will now be able to make up for the loſs of your breakfaſt." "I wiſh to God my dear, the fiſh be not overdone," cried Mr Barnet, fixing an alarmed look on the diſh.

"Pray do not terrify yourſelf," replied Mrs Barnet; "the fiſh is done to a moment; and the veal, as well as the beans and bacon, ſeem admirable—allow me to help you."

Mrs Barnet accordingly helped her huſband to every thing ſhe knew he liked, which, he being a man of few words, particularly at meals, accepted in ſilent complacency. After having amply indemnified himſelf for the misfortunes of the breakfaſt, and having attempted, in vain, to ſwallow another morſel, he looked with benignity at his wife, and ſaid, "I really wiſh you would eat a little bit yourſelf, my dear."

"I believe the parting with our ſweet girl has entirely deprived me of appetite; it is not in my power to eat much; but, if you pleaſe, I will drink a glaſs of wine with you."

"I will juſt take one draught more of ale firſt; I believe there is but one other draught in the tankard."

Mr Barnet, having finiſhed his ale, "Upon my word," ſaid he, "this ale is excellent—and now, my dear, I am ready to join you in a glaſs of wine.—Here, my dear, is your very good health, with all my heart, not forgetting our dear Louiſa."

After Mr Barnet had drank a few glaſſes more, and praiſed the port as ſound and ſtomachic, and of a good body; "I am glad to ſee you here again, my dear," ſaid he; "they may talk of the conveniencies and comforts of London as they pleaſe, but I think there is no place where one finds every thing ſo neat, and ſo clean, and ſo comfortable, as in one's own houſe here, and at one's own, good, warm, ſnug fireſide."

Mrs Barnet, deſirous of intereſting her huſband in the poor boy, thought this a good opportunity, and after expreſſing her own ſatisfaction in the thoughts of his finding home ſo agreeable, ſhe proceeded in the following terms: "Yet, my dear, in the midſt of thoſe comforts which Providence has ſo bountifully beſtowed upon us, it is impoſſible not to feel uneaſineſs in reflecting on the numbers of our fellow-creatures, who, inſtead of thoſe conveniencies which we enjoy, are fain, after fatigue and labour, to ſeek a little refreſhment, and repoſe upon ſtraw, in cold uncomfortable habitations, and from ſcanty proviſions! The fine boy, whom I already mentioned, was going from a workhouſe, to the miſerable cottage of a wretched old

woman

woman, who had no natural intereſt in him, and——"

Here Mrs Barnet ſtopped, becauſe ſhe perceived that her huſband had fallen aſleep.

The following day they had viſitors, and Mrs Barnet found no proper opportunity of mentioning to her huſband the boy in whom ſhe felt ſo ſtrong an intereſt. The day after, ſhe was again prevented by the following accident:—A large company were invited to dine on turtle, at an inn in the village. This dinner was given by a gentleman, whoſe intereſt in the county, Mr Barnet oppoſed, of courſe he was not invited to the feaſt; but the inn-keeper, who had private reaſons for cultivating the good will of Mr Barnet, and knew by what means that was to be moſt effectually obtained, gave him to know that a copious baſon of the turtle ſhould be ſent to him.—Mr Barnet having prepared himſelf for the occaſion, by a longer airing than uſual, was waiting with impatience for the accompliſhment of the inn-keeper's promiſe, when he was informed, that in conveying the ſoup from the inn, the ſervant had ſtumbled, and ſpilt the rich cargo on the ground. This melancholy accident affected Mr Barnet ſo deeply, that his wife plainly perceived it would be vain to expect that he ſhould, for that day at leaſt, think of any body's misfortune but his own.

The following morning, Mrs Barnet, on the pretext of paying an early viſit, drove to the old woman's cottage, to inquire after the poor boy.

She ſoon obſerved him ſitting on a ſtone before the old woman's door, a-part from the other children, who were playing on the heath.

He ſprung, with extended arms, toward Mrs Barnet, as ſoon as he ſaw her.

"Why are you not playing with the other children?" ſaid ſhe.

"Becauſe," ſaid he, "you promiſed to come and ſee me, and I have watched for you ever ſince."

"That he has, indeed, madam," ſaid the old woman, who came out of the hovel, when ſhe ſaw the carriage ſtop; "he has been conſtantly on the look-out from morning to night, although I told him—"You ſilly fool," ſaid I, "do you think that that there fine lady will take the trouble to come to ſee ſuch a poor little wretch as you—and what does your ladyſhip think he anſwered?"—

"What *did* he anſwer?" ſaid Mrs Barnet.

"Yes, I do think it," ſays he; "for ſhe promiſed to do ſo," ſaid he, "and the parſon of the work-houſe ſchool told us, that good folks always kept their promiſe," ſays he. "And I am ſure," continued the old woman, "that your ladyſhip always will, particularly to me, whereof your ladyſhip muſt remember that you promiſed to reward me, if ſo be I treated this boy kindly, which God he knows I have done, as in duty bound."

"Have you had any breakfaſt, my dear?" ſaid Mrs Barnet to the boy.

"I was juſt going to give him ſome," anſwered the old woman, "when your ladyſhip arrived.—Was I not, child?"

"I don't know," ſaid the boy.

"He does not underſtand politeneſs as yet, pleaſe your ladyſhip," ſaid the the old woman; "but I will ſoon teach him in time; for indeed I was juſt going to give him ſome breakfaſt, as in duty bound."

Mrs Barnet continued to talk with the boy for a conſiderable time, and was highly pleaſed with all he ſaid. She then gave ſome money to the woman, repeating her injunctions, "that ſhe ſhould be careful and attentive to the boy; and now, "my dear, here is ſomething for you," added ſhe; preſenting him with a large ſweetcake.

"Are you going away already?" ſaid the boy, with a ſorrowful look.

"Yes, my dear, I muſt go," replied ſhe.

"There," ſaid the boy, giving the cake to the old woman, "you may divide that among the children."

"Firſt take ſome yourſelf," rejoined the old woman; tearing off a piece, and offering it to the boy.

"No," ſaid he; "I do not like it *now*."

"You cannot chooſe but like it," ſaid ſhe, taking a large bite of the cake herſelf. "Here, here," reſumed ſhe, as ſoon as ſhe could articulate; "I aſſure you it is very nice, ſo there is a piece for you."

"I cannot eat it now," replied he, rejecting the cake, and looking mournfully at Mrs Barnet.

"I will come and ſee you again, my dear," ſaid Mrs Barnet, tapping his cheek; "but I am obliged to go at preſent; pray be a good boy."

"I

"I cannot be a good boy," returned he, ready to cry; "when you are going away."

"I will soon return," said she, "but pray be good."

"I will try," said the boy, with a sob; "but I fear I cannot."

Mrs Barnet had not only a warm benevolent heart, but also something of a warm imagination. The accidental manner in which she had met with this boy, and the sudden and growing interest which his appearance, behaviour, and forlorn condition created in her breast, she considered as the inquisition of Providence urging her to save a fine boy from vice, infamy, and ruin.

Fraught with this idea, she returned to her own house a little before her husband arose; and by the time he was dressed, she had every thing arranged for his breakfast.

Mr Barnet entered the parlour with a newspaper in his hand, and what was seldom the case, with a chearful countenance.

"I fancy you have good news to communicate," said Mrs Barnet.

"Why, yes," said he; "I find stocks have risen one and a half per cent. by which I shall gain a pretty round sum."

"I am glad to hear it," said she, presenting him with a basin of tea.

"I do not see why we should not have a dish of john-dorys for dinner to-day, let them cost what they will," returned he.

"You shall have it, my dear," said Mrs Barnet; "I'll give orders about it directly."

While Mrs Barnet was giving the orders, her husband helped himself very plentifully to the toast, which he found buttered to his taste.—He continued to eat, with every appearance of satisfaction, for a considerable time after his wife returned; and when he could eat no more, he protested he a piece of toast, with his usual phrase on like occasions—"I really wish you would eat a little bit yourself, my dear."

"With all my heart," said Mrs Barnet, "for I realize to see you look so cheerful and well this morning."

"Why truly," said he, striking his belly, "I do feel myself pretty comfortable."

Mrs Barnet thinking this the lucky moment for relating the story of the poor boy—dwelled his fine locks and helpless condition in such eloquent and pathetic terms, that her husband, in spite of his natural indifference to every thing which did not personally regard himself, seemed a little affected.—Mrs Barnet perceiving this, continued:—

"I do assure you, my dear, that you never saw a prettier boy."

"I make no manner of doubt of it," said Mr Barnet; "but as for the old woman," returned his wife, "she seemed to be an unfeeling creature, and fond of gin."

"I make no manner of doubt of it," said Mr Barnet; "for I have known several old women fond of gin."

"I am sure she will neglect the poor boy," returned she.

"Well, my dear, since you are persuaded of that, I think we must send for the old woman, and advise her to take care of him; and I am willing to give her a few shillings out of my pocket for so doing;" said Mr Barnet.

"That would make her *promise* to take care of him," said Mrs Barnet, "and make her *appear* very kind to him when you or I are with her; but what will become of the poor child when we are not present?"

"Why, he must take his chance, like the other children," said the husband.

"The other children have all some relation to inquire about them," said Mrs Barnet; "but this poor boy is quite destitute of relation, friend, or protector. The poor creature himself told me, that the only friend he had died last week."

"And who was he?" said Mr Barnet.

"A poor old footman," replied his wife.

"And are you making all this fuss, Jane, about a little friendless vagabond, whom nobody knows?" said Mr Barnet.

"If this poor boy were known and had friends, he would not stand in need of our protection," replied Mrs Barnet.

"That is very true," said Mr Barnet; "but on the other hand, it is very hard on us, to be the only protector of poor friendless vagabond boys."

"This is but *one* boy," replied Mrs Barnet; "perhaps Providence will never throw another so particularly in our way."

"Why truly, Jane, you surprise me," said the husband; "you seem to be as much concerned about this boy, as if he were your own."

"So would you, if you had only seen him:

him; he is a moſt bewitching little fellow, and although he is ſomewhat pale and emaciated, I never in my life beheld a boy with finer features and a more intereſting countenance:—he brought to my remembrance our own poor George, who is dead and gone."—Here ſhe burſt into tears, and was unable to ſpeak for a few minutes.

"Pray, do not afflict yourſelf for what cannot be helped," ſaid Mr Barnet; "you know, my dear, we did all we could for George, and the apothecary did all *he* could alſo; he could not have preſcribed a greater number of draughts, and cordials, and julaps, to the only ſon of a duke; for his bill was as long as a ſpit, ſo there is no cauſe for ſorrow or reflection.—And as for this hoſpital boy, although he is nothing to me, yet ſince he bears ſuch a reſemblance to George, I am willing to make a weekly allowance, out of my own pocket, to the old woman, to make her careful of him."

Mrs Barnet ſhook her head.

"Why, what would you have me do?" reſumed the huſband; "you would not ſurely have me take him quite out of the hands of the old woman, and be at the whole burden of his maintenance myſelf!"

Mrs Barnet ſmiled with a nod of aſſent.

"Good gracious, my dear! You do not reflect," added the huſband, "how ſtrange a thing it would be for us to take a poor miſerable wretch of a boy, perhaps the ſon of a footman, under our care, and be at the whole expence of maintaining him. I ſhould be glad to know who will thank us for it?"

"Our own hearts," ſaid Mrs Barnet.

"My heart never thanked me for any ſuch thing ſince I was born," ſaid Mr Barnet; "and I am ſure all our acquaintances would laugh at us, and turn us into ridicule."

"All the laughters in the world cannot turn benevolence into ridicule," ſaid Mrs Barnet; "and the narrow minded may be hurt to ſee you do what *they* cannot imitate; but malice itſelf can neither prevent the pleaſure which a charitable action will afford to your own breaſt, my dear, nor the reſpect which will attend it."

"So your drift is," replied the huſband, "to teaſe me till I take this boy into my houſe."

"My drift has never been to teaſe you, but always to make you happy, my dear. I own I am affected with the friendleſs condition of this poor orphan, and ſtruck with his reſemblance to the child who was torn from us at the ſame age:—as for the poor young creature's maintenance, it will be a mere triſle to us, but of infinite importance to him; it may ſave him from vice, and the worſt kind of ruin. The reflection of having done ſo charitable an office to a lovely boy, like your own departed ſon, would no doubt afford you everlaſting ſatisfaction: but," continued ſhe, perceiving that her huſband began to be affected, "I deſire you to do nothing which is not prompted by the generous feelings of your own heart; for of this I am certain, that your acting up to them will render you more proſperous even in this world, and ſecure you a reward of an hundred fold in the next."

The earneſtneſs of Mrs Barnet's manner, and the recollection of a ſon whom he had loved as much as he could love any thing, had already touched the heart of the huſband; and this laſt intimation of immediate proſperity and future reward, ſounding in his ears ſomething like accumulated intereſt, and a large premium, came neareſt his feelings, and overcame him entirely.

"Well, my dear," ſaid he, "ſince this is your opinion, let the boy be brought hither as ſoon as you pleaſe."

Mrs Barnet threw her arms around her huſband's neck, and thanked him with all the warmth of an overflowing and benevolent heart.

## REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

*Studies of Nature.* By James Henry-Bernardin de Saint Pierre. Tranſlated by Henry Hunter, D. D. Miniſter of the Scots Church, London Wall.

THE great object of this work is to furniſh, from the actual contemplation of nature, a ſeries of proofs of an univerſally exiſting order, and a ſuperintending Providence. In purſuit of this object, the author takes a wide range;

examining and refuting the various objections which have been raiſed againſt Providence, from partial views of the works of nature. In the firſt part, in which the writer replies to the objections founded on the diſorders of the globe, he advances ſeveral new hypotheſes: he controverts the Newtonian doctrine of centripetal and centrifugal forces; he aſcribes the direction of the chain of mountains on the Continent to the regular winds which blow over the ocean; the poſition of iſlands to the confluence of the ſeas and rivers; the conſtant ſupply of fuel to volcanos, and to the bituminous depoſits on the ſhores; and the currents of the ſeas, and motion of the tides, to the alternate freezing and melting of the polar glaciers. This latter theory, though it has not diſplaced the Newtonian explanation of the tides from the attraction of the moon, is ſupported with great ingenuity.

M. de St Pierre next refutes the objections againſt Providence with reſpect to the vegetable and animal kingdoms, by ſhewing that we cannot account for their various productions and phænomena by mere mechanical laws, and that they afford indubitable proofs of a directing intelligence, in the wiſe adaption of means to ends.

With reſpect to man, he is conſidered by our author as poſſeſſed of two oppoſite powers, the one animal, the other intellectual; which, by their union, conſtitute human life. The varieties in human exiſtence are referred to theſe ſources; and hence the neceſſity of ſocial and religious affections to the happineſs of a human being is demonſtrated. The evils of ſociety are ſhewn to originate, not from nature, but from wrong education, and abſurd inſtitutions and cuſtoms. In concluſion, the author propoſes various projects for the improvement of human life.

To give a few intereſting extracts—The intelligence beſtowed by nature on the animal creation is happily illuſtrated in the following paragraph:

"The torpedo defended himſelf from his enemies by means of the electric ſhock, before academies thought of making experiments in electricity; and the limpet underſtood the power of the preſſure of the air, and attached itſelf to the rocks, by forming the vacuum with its pyramidical ſhell, long before the air pump was ſet a-going. The quails which annually take their departure from Europe, on their way to Africa, have ſuch a perfect knowledge of the autumnal Equinox, that the day of their arrival in Malta, where they reſt for twenty-four hours, is marked on the almanacks of the iſland, about the 22d of September, and varies every year as the Equinox. The ſwan and wild duck have an accurate knowledge of the latitude where they ought to ſtop, when, every year they re-aſcend, in Spring, to the extremities of the North, and can find out, without the help of compaſs or octant, the ſpot where the year before they made their neſts. The frigat which flies from Eaſt to Weſt, between the Tropics, over vaſt Oceans interrupted by no land, and which regains at night, at the diſtance of many hundred leagues, the rock hardly emerging out of the water which he left in the morning, poſſeſſes means of aſcertaining his longitude, hitherto unknown to our moſt ingenious aſtronomers.

"Man, it has been ſaid, owes his intelligence to his hands; but the monkey, the declared enemy of all induſtry, has hands too. The ſluggard, or ſloth, likewiſe has hands, and they ought to have ſuggeſted to him the propriety of fortifying himſelf: of digging, at leaſt, a retreat in the earth, for himſelf and for his poſterity, expoſed as they are to a thouſand accidents, by the ſlowneſs of their progreſſion. There are animals in abundance furniſhed with tools much more ingenious than hands, and which are not, for all that, a whit more intelligent. The gnat is furniſhed with a proboſcis, which is at once an awl proper for piercing the fleſh of animals, and a pump by which it ſucks out their blood. This proboſcis contains, beſides, a long ſaw, with which it opens the ſmall blood-veſſels at the bottom of the wound which it has made. He is likewiſe provided with wings, to tranſport him wherever he pleaſes; a coſlet of eyes ſtudded round his little head, to ſee all the objects about him in every direction; talons ſo ſharp, that he can walk on poliſhed glaſs in a perpendicular direction; feet ſupplied with bruſhes for cleanſing himſelf; a plume of feathers on his forehead; and an inſtrument anſwering the purpoſe of a trumpet to proclaim his triumphs. He is an inhabitant of the air, the earth, and the water, where he is born in form of a worm,

worm, and where, before he expires, the eggs which are to produce a future generation are depoſited.

"With all theſe advantages, he frequently falls a prey to inſects ſmaller, and of a much inferior organization. The ant which creeps only, and is furniſhed with no weapons except pincers, is formidable not to him only, but to animals of a much larger ſize, and even to quadrupeds. She knows what the united force of a multitude is capable of effecting; ſhe forms republics; ſhe lays up ſtore of proviſions; ſhe builds ſubterraneous cities; ſhe forms her attacks in regular military array; ſhe advances in columns, and ſometimes conſtrains man himſelf, in hot countries, to ſurrender his habitation to her."

The law of *convenance*, conformity, or the exact adaption of one thing to another, which furniſhes the principal argument for the being of God, is largely and beautifully illuſtrated by a variety of natural facts, in which a *deſigned* relation between the ſeveral parts of nature is apparent. From this moſt intereſting part, we ſhall ſelect, out of a vaſt maſs of valuable matter, two or three ſtriking paſſages:

"THERE is ſeen, on the ſhores of India, a large and beautiful bird, white and fire-coloured, called the *flamingo*, not that it is of Flemiſh extraction, but the name is derived from the old French word *flambant*, (flaming) becauſe it appears, at a diſtance, like a flame of fire. He generally inhabits in ſwampy grounds, and ſalt marſhes, in the waters, of which he conſtructs his neſt, by raiſing out of the moiſture, of a foot deep, a little hillock of mud, a foot and a half high. He makes a hole in the ſummit of this little hillock; in this the hen depoſits two eggs and hatches them, with her feet ſunk in the water, by means of the extreme length of her legs. When ſeveral of theſe birds are ſitting at the ſame time on their eggs, in the midſt of a ſwamp, you would take them, at a diſtance, for the flames of a conflagration, burſting from the boſom of the waters.

"Other fowls preſent contraſts of a different kind on the ſame ſhores. The pelican, or wide throat, is a bird white and brown, provided with a large bag under its beak, which is of exceſſive length. Out he goes every morning to ſtore his bag with fiſh: and, the ſupply of the day having been accompliſhed, he perches on ſome pointed rock, on a level with the water, where he ſtands immoveable till the evening, ſays Father Du Tertre*, "as in a ſtate of profound "ſorrow, with the head drooping, from "the weight of his long bill, and eyes "fixed on the agitated ocean, as mo-"tionleſs as a ſtatue of marble." On the duſky ſtrand of thoſe ſeas may frequently be diſtinguiſhed herons white as ſnow, and in the azure plains of the ſky, the paillencu of a ſilvery white, ſkimming through it almoſt out of ſight: he is ſometimes glazed over with a bright red, having likewiſe the two long feathers of his tail the colour of fire, as that of the South Seas.

"In many caſes, the deeper that the ground is, the more brilliant are the the colours in which the animal, deſtined to live upon, is arrayed. We have not, perhaps, in Europe, any inſect with richer and gayer clothing than the ſtercoraceous ſcarab, and the fly which bears the ſame epithet. This laſt is brighter than burniſhed gold and ſteel; the other, of a hemiſpherical form, is of a fine blue, inclining to purple: and in order to render the contraſt complete, he exhales a ſtrong and agreeable odour of muſk.

"Nature has beſtowed at once, in the colours of innoxious animals, contraſts with the ground on which they live, and conſonances with that which is adjacent, and has ſuperadded the inſtinct of employing theſe alternately, according as good or bad fortune prompts. Theſe wonderful accommodations may be remarked in moſt of our ſmall birds, whoſe flight is feeble, and of ſhort duration. The grey lark finds her ſubſiſtence among the graſs of the plains? Does any thing terrify her? She glides away, and takes her ſtation between two little clods of earth, where ſhe becomes inviſible. On this ſpot ſhe remains in ſuch perfect tranquillity, as hardly to quit it, when the foot of the fowler is ready to cruſh her.

"The ſame is true of the partridge. I have no doubt that theſe defenceleſs birds have a ſenſe of thoſe contraſts and correſpondencies of colour, for I have remarked it even in inſects. In the month of March laſt, I obſerved, by the brink of the rivulet which waſhes the

* Hiſtory of the Antilles.

Gobelins†, a butterfly of the colour of brick, repoſing with expanded wings on a tuft of graſs. On my approaching him, he flew off. He alighted, at ſome paces diſtant, on the ground, which, at that place, was of the ſame colour with himſelf. I approached him a ſecond time; he took a ſecond flight, and perched again on a ſimilar ſtrip of earth. In a word, I found it was not in my power to oblige him to alight on the graſs, though I made frequent attempts to that effect, and though the ſpaces of earth which ſeparated the turfy ſoil were narrow, and few in number.

"This wonderful inſtinct is, likewiſe, conſpicuouſly evident in the cameleon. This ſpecies of lizard, whoſe motion is extremely ſlow, is indemnified for this, by the incomprehenſible faculty of aſſuming, at pleaſure, the colour of the ground over which he moves. With this advantage, he is enabled to elude the eye of his purſuer, whoſe ſpeed would ſoon overtake him. This faculty is in his will, for his ſkin is by no means a mirror. It reflects only the colour of objects, and not their form. What is farther ſingularly remarkable in this, and perfectly aſcertained by Naturaliſts, though they aſſign no reaſon for it, he can aſſume all colours, as brown, gray, yellow, and eſpecially green, which is his favourite colour, but never red. The cameleon has been placed, for weeks together, amidſt ſcarlet ſtuffs, without acquiring the ſlighteſt ſhade of that colour. Nature ſeems to have with-held from the creature this ſhining hue, becauſe it could ſerve only to render him perceptible at a greater diſtance; and, farther, becauſe this colour is that of the ground of no ſpecies of earth, or of vegetable, on which he is deſigned to paſs his life.

"But, in the age of weakneſs and inexperience, nature confounds the colour of the harmleſs animals, with that of the ground on which they inhabit, without committing to them the power of choice. The young of pigeons, and of moſt granivero * fowls, are clothed with a greeniſh ſhaggy coat, reſembling the moſſes of their neſts. Caterpillars are blind, and have the complexion of the foliage, and of the barks which they devour. Nay, the young fruits, before they come to be armed with prickles, or incloſed in caſes, in bitter pulps, in hard ſhells, to protect their ſeeds, are, during the ſeaſon of their expanſion, green as the leaves which ſurround them. Some embryons, it is true, ſuch as thoſe of certain pears, are ruddy or brown; but they are then of the colour of the bark of the tree to which they belong. When theſe ſeeds have incloſed their ſeed in kernels, or nuts, ſo as to be in no farther danger, they then change colour. They become yellow, blue, gold-coloured, red, black, and give to their reſpective trees their natural contraſts. It is ſtrikingly remarkable, that every fruit which has changed colour, has ſeed in a ſtate of maturity."

We ſhall now give an extract from the chapter which treats of the harmony of plants relative to man.

"It is in the countries of the north, and on the ſummit of cold mountains, that the pine grows, and the fir, and the cedar, and moſt part of reſinous trees, which ſhelter man from the ſnows by the cloſeneſs of their foliage, and which furniſh him, during the winter ſeaſon, with torches, and fuel for his fire-ſide. It is very remarkable, that the leaves of thoſe ever-green trees are filiform, and extremely adapted, by this configuration, which poſſeſſes the farther advantage of reverberating the heat, like the hair of animals, for reſiſtance to the impetuoſity of the winds, that beat with peculiar violence on elevated ſituations. The Swediſh naturaliſts have obſerved, that the fatteſt pines are to be found on the dryeſt and moſt ſandy regions of Norway. The larch, which takes equal pleaſure in the cold mountains, has a very reſinous trunk.

"Mathiola, in his uſeful commentary on Dioſcorides, informs us, that there is no ſubſtance more proper than the charcoal of theſe trees, for promptly melting the iron minerals, in the vicinity of which they peculiarly thrive. They are, beſides, loaded with moſſes, ſome ſpecies of which catch fire from the ſlighteſt ſpark. He related, that being obliged, on a certain occaſion, to paſs the night in the lofty mountains of the Strait of Trento, where he was botanizing, he found there a great quantity of larches (*laris*) bearded all over, to uſe his own expreſſion, and completely whitened with moſs. The ſhepherds of the place, willing to amuſe

† A ſmall village in the ſuburbs of Paris, noted for its manufactures in fine tapeſtry, and ſuperb mirrors.

amuſe him, ſet fire to the moſſes of ſome of thoſe trees, which was immediately communicated with the rapidity of gunpowder touched with the match. Amidſt the obſcurity of the night, the flame and the ſparks ſeemed to aſcend up to the very heavens. They diffuſed, as they burnt, a very agreeable perfume. He farther remarks, that the beſt agaricum grows upon the larch, and that the arquebuſiers of his time made uſe of it for keeping up fire, and for making matches. Thus nature, in crowning the ſummit of cold and ferruginous mountains with thoſe vaſt vegetable torches, has placed the match in their branches, the tinder at their foot, and the ſteel at their roots.

"To the ſouth, on the contrary, trees preſent, in their foilage, fans, umbrellas, paraſols. The latanier carries each of its leaves plaited as a fan, attached to a long tail, and ſimilar, when completely diſplayed, to a radiating ſun of verdure. Two of thoſe trees are to be ſeen in the Royal-Garden. The leaf of the banana reſembles a long and broad girdle, which, undoubtedly, procured for it the name of Adam's fig-tree. The magnitude of the leaves of ſeveral ſpecies of trees increaſes in proportion as we approach the Line. That of the cocoa-tree, with double fruit, of the Sechelles Iſlands, is from twelve to fifteen feet long, and from ſeven to eight broad. A ſingle one is ſufficient to cover a numerous family. One of thoſe leaves is, likewiſe, to be ſeen in the Royal Cabinet of Natural Hiſtory. That of the talipot of the Iſland of Ceylon is of nearly the ſame ſize.

"The intereſting and unfortunate Robert Knox, who has given the beſt account of Ceylon which I am acquainted with, tells us, that one of the leaves of the talipot is capable of covering from fifteen to twenty perſons. When it is dry, continues he, it is at once ſtrong and pliant, ſo that you may fold and unfold it at pleaſure, being naturally plaited like a fan. In this ſtate it is not bigger than a man's arm, and extremely light. The natives cut it into triangles, though it is naturally round, and each of them carries one of thoſe ſections over his head, holding the angular part before, in his hand, to open for himſelf a paſſage through the buſhes. The ſoldiers employ this leaf as a covering to their tents. He conſiders it, and with good reaſon, as one of the greateſt bleſſings of Providence, in a country burnt up by the ſun, and inundated by the rains, for ſix months of the year.

"Nature has provided, in thoſe climates, paraſols for whole villages; for the fig-tree, denominated, in India, the fig-tree of the Banians, a drawing of which may be ſeen in Tavernier, and in ſeveral other travellers, grows on the very burning ſand of the ſea-ſhore, throwing, from the extremity of its branches, a multiutde of ſhoots, which drop to the ground, there take root, and form around the principal trunk, a great number of covered arcades, whoſe ſhade is impervious to the rays of the ſun.

"In our temperate climates, we experience a ſimilar benevolence on the part of Nature. In the warm and thirſty ſeaſon, ſhe beſtows upon us a variety of fruits, repleniſhed with the moſt refreſhing juices ſuch as cherries, peaches, melons; and, as winter approaches, thoſe which warm and comfort by their oils, ſuch as the almond and the walnut. Certain naturaliſts have conſidered even the ligneous ſhells of theſe fruits as a preſervative againſt the cold of the gloomy ſeaſon; but theſe are, as we have ſeen, the means of floating and of navigating. Nature employs others, with which we are not acquainted, for preſerving the ſubſtances of fruits, from the impreſſions of the air. For example, ſhe preſerves, through the whole winter, many ſpecies of apples and pears, which have no other covering than a pellicle ſo very thin, that it is impoſſible to determine how fine it is.

"Nature has placed other vegetables in humid and in dry ſituations, the qualities of which are inexplicable on the principles of our Phyſics, but which admirably harmonize with the neceſſities of the men who inhabit thoſe places. Along the water-ſide grow the plants and the trees which are the dryeſt, the lighteſt, and, conſequently, the beſt adapted to the purpoſe of croſſing the ſtream. Such are reeds, which are hollow, and ruſhes, which are filled with an inflammable marrow. It requires but a very moderate bundle of ruſhes to bear the weight of a very heavy man upon the water. On the banks of the lakes of the north are produced thoſe enormous birch-trees, the bark of a ſingle one of which, is ſufficient to form a large canoe. This bark is ſimilar to leather in pliancy, and ſo incorruptible by humidity, that, in Ruſſia, I have ſeen ſome of it extract-

ed

ed from under the earth which covered powder magazines, perfectly found, though it had lain there from the time of Peter the Great."

*Three Dialogues on the Amusements of Clergymen.* 8vo. 3s. 6d. fewed. *White.*

IT will be owned, that to the clerical character a certain appropriate gravity and dignity of behaviour is neceſſary, which cannot be forſaken without incurring the cenſure of incongruity, and, in ſome degree, rendering the profeſſion itſelf leſs reſpectable. The amuſements of clergymen ought certainly to be under the reſtrictions of conſiſtency and decorum: the ſubject well deſerves diſcuſſion; and in the dialogues now before us it is diſcuſſed with good ſenſe and good humour. The original MS. of this publication is ſaid to have been written towards the cloſe of the laſt century, by Dr Joſiah Frampton, and to have been found among the papers in his library, ſold about the year 1730. The dialogues are given as real converſations between Dean Stillingfleet, the author of *Origines Sacræ*, and Dr Frampton. The good Dean adviſes his young friend to avoid, as wholly inconſiſtent with the clerical character, the cruel diverſions of hunting, ſhooting, and angling with worms. Without carrying tenderneſs, in taking away life, to a ridiculous extreme, the cruelty of theſe amuſements, and their peculiar inconſiſtency with the proper temper and character of a Chriſtian divine, are forcibly repreſented. The argument is enlivened with ſtrokes of pleaſantry, and with pertinent anecdotes. Our readers will judge by the following quotation:

"I remember," ſaid the Dean, "a clergyman in a neighbourhood where I once lived, who had two benefices; but he ſpent little time at either of them, becauſe neither happened to be in a ſporting country. The hunting ſeaſon he always ſpent near a ſquire in the parish next to mine, whoſe diſciplined pack was famous. With this gentleman, and his hounds, he lived on terms of the greateſt intimacy. Indeed both the ſquire and his dogs looked up to him as their ableſt leader. Though he was a miſerable preacher, he was uncommonly muſical in the field; and could cheer and animate his ſonorous friends with an eloquence beyond the huntſman himſelf, whoſe aſſociate he always was, and whoſe place, on any emergency, he could amply ſupply. He was much readier at finding a hare, than a text of ſcripture; and though he was ſcarce acquainted with the face of one of his pariſhioners, he knew exactly the character of every hound in the ſquire's pack; and could run over their names with much more readineſs than thoſe of the twelve apoſtles*. He had at length the misfortune to break his neck at the end of a fox-chaſe, but not till he had firſt broken the heart of a very amiable woman, who had unhappily connected herſelf with him.

"Such a clergyman, ſaid I, is hardly to be paralleled in a century. But in an inferior degree, I fear, there are many of our brethren, who allow themſelves great indulgence. I remember a hunting clergyman, who received a very proper rebuke from one of his brethren; and which I have reaſon to believe was of ſervice to him as long as he lived. He had been lamenting his unfortunate lot, in being ſtationed in a country where there was no hunting. The other looking him full in the face, ſaid with great gravity of countenance, and in a deliberate tone of voice; "At the great day of accounts, the queſtion will not be, *where* have you lived; but *how* have you lived?"—All this however is carrying amuſement to exceſs. But ſuppoſe, Sir, when you are riding out, you happen to hear the hounds, is there any harm merely in taking a little exerciſe with them, if you do not join in the riot of the chaſe?

"I hate, ſaid the Dean, to ſee a man do any thing by halves. Is it right, or is it wrong? if it be right, do it boldly. If it be wrong, turn your horſe another way, and take your exerciſe in a contrary direction. Never go to the edge of a precipice. You can hardly help going a little farther than you intended. I remember hearing a ſtory of a clergyman, who was not remarkable for neglecting at leaſt the outward part of his duty; but once unhappily forgot it through his love for hunting. He was

" * Oh laugh, or mourn with me, the rueful jeſt,
A caſſock'd huntſman!——
He takes the field; the maſter of the pack,
Cries, Well done, Saint—and claps him on the back.
Is this the path of ſanctity? Is this
To ſtand a way-mark in the road to bliſs?
COWPER."

eagerly

eagerly engaged in a fox-chafe, when the fox *took to earth*, as they call it: on which he cried out, "Gentlemen, I muft leave you: This puts me in mind, that I have a corpfe to bury at four o'clock this evening; and I fear I fhall be an hour too late."—Befides, continued the Dean, you cannot well avoid, in this field of riot, at leaft if you are often feen in it, making an acquaintance with feveral, to whom, for your character's fake, you would not wifh to be known.—But indeed, as I obferved, to mix, in any degree, in thefe fcenes of cruelty, and riotous exultation, is unbecoming the clerical profeffion.—Farther ftill, (to clofe my argument with fcripture,) I fhould with you to conſider, that as many good people, as well as I, difapprove a clergyman's mixing in thefe riotous amufements, fo of courfe it will give offence to all thefe good people. No man therefore, who has the honour of his profeffion at heart, would give offence, where the matter in queftion is of fo little conſequence as a mere amufement. Let him conſider how ſtrict St Paul was in matters of this kind. St Paul's example is certainly not very fafhionable; but with a clergyman, I fhould hope it might have fome weight. He gives us many hints, which come home to the point we are now diſcuſſing. Hunting was out of the queſtion. He would not certainly have permitted Timothy or Titus to hunt, if they had been ſo diſpoſed. But he forbids us to give offence in matters that are of much more concern than mere amuſement. *If meat*, ſays he, *make my brother to offend, I will eat no fleſh while the world ſtandeth, leſt I make my brother to offend.*"

*An Inquiry into the Foundation and Hiſtory of the Law of Nations in Europe*, from the Time of the Greeks and Romans, to the Age of Grotius. By Robert Ward of the Inner Temple, Eſq; Barriſter at Law. 2 Vols. 8vo. 15s.

IT has often been noticed, that in almoſt every other art and ſcience, Britain has produced authors whoſe works hold a diſtinguiſhed rank in the republic of letters: but ſhe has ſcarcely given birth to one writer on general law, whoſe works are cited out of her own courts of juſtice, or read by the learned of other nations. Lord Bolingbroke, who ſometimes took a pleaſure in expoſing the defects of his countrymen, has, on more than one occaſion, made this remark in his writings. The preſent work will perhaps contribute much to wipe off this reproach.

As a ſpecimen, we ſhall give an extract from that part, where the author treats of the influence of Chriſtianity, and eccleſiaſtical eſtabliſhments on the law of nations.

"THE law of nations being founded in a great meaſure upon the ſyſtems of morality, good or bad, purſued by certain ſets or claſſes of people; and religion being every where the ground-work of the morality obſerved, the Chriſtian religion, as we have mentioned in chapter 5, may be ſuppoſed not merely to influence, but to be the chief guide of the Chriſtian law of nations.

"It certainly has had ſo powerful an effect upon it, that wherever it has exiſted, it has gone the fartheſt of all cauſes to introduce notions of humanity and true juſtice into the maxims of the world. The great proof of which is, that if we compare the conduct of Chriſtian nations with that of nations profeſſing any other religion, (whatever may be their ſtages of improvement, or in whatever æra of their glory), the reſult, I believe, will be uniform and univerſal, that the one will be eminent over the other for regularity, equity, and benevolence. In making the compariſon, it would be unfair to bring into the account, any of thoſe nations that are ſtill approaching to a ſtate of nature. I paſs by, therefore, all people who may yet be denominated ſavage, and refer for the ſake of greater accuracy, to the moſt eminent alone of the nations of antiquity, and of the moderns who live under a perſuaſion different from ours.

"The Greeks under the æras of Pericles, Socrates, Epaminondas, and Ageſilaus; and the Romans, under the reign of Auguſtus, (which for poliſh and refinement has become proverbial), had advanced, I believe it will be owned, to their ſummit in every ſort of knowledge; the names of Socrates and Cicero would alone be ſufficient to prove it. Yet we need only refer to the ſlight ſketch already given of their maxims, with reſpect to their intercourſe with foreigners, (chap. 6). to be convinced of their backwardneſs in the knowlege of the law of nations conſidered as a ſcience.

"If commerce and the acquiſition of riches, by viſiting every nation in the known

known world, could conduce to perfection in this law, the Carthaginians promiſed fair to be, in this reſpect, the moſt perfect people of antiquity. The ſavageneſs, rapacity, and injuſtice however of every kind, which marked their conduct towards all foreign nations, are too well known to detain us longer upon them.

"If we look to the Mahometan and Turkiſh nations, (though their power has been equal to the greateſt, and their empire of conſiderable duration), their ignorance and barbarity repreſs all examination, and if they have received any improvement ſince the days when they firſt got foot in Europe, it is probably from their connection with the people profeſſing the very religion which they muſt hate and deſpiſe.

"The ſame inferiority in this ſort of conduct, is to be found even among the Chineſe, ſo famed for eminence in every other branch of knowledge, and in the ſcience of morals itſelf. Their wars have always been carried on with Eaſtern barbarity, and their known laws againſt ſtrangers would alone demonſtrate the point.

"Among the Chriſtians, on the other hand, every thing is conducted, or at leaſt enjoined, by received and general laws, upon principles of the moſt extenſive humanity, and the moſt regular juſtice.

"I am aware that this was by no means the caſe during the centuries before us, of which the picture of manners brought forward in chapter 9, is a ſufficient proof; and as Chriſtianity had been then long known in the world, it may fairly be aſked of us, if the precepts which it holds forth are the chief cauſes of that benevolent and equal morality on which the modern nations pride themſelves, how it came to paſs that during all the ages that have been mentioned, its effects were not more viſible upon the cuſtoms of mankind?

"The anſwer is to be drawn partly from circumſtances in the Hiſtory of Europe, partly from the remoteneſs which is often to be obſerved between cauſe and effect. More than three hundred years paſſed on before it was poſſible for Chriſtianity to interpoſe with effect in the laws of the world; thoſe who had the power of making laws, having been ſo far from adopting its precepts, that it became the object of their moſt violent perſecutions. For four hundred years afterwards, Europe was torn to pieces by the rage of different races of barbarians, who preſſed upon one another too faſt to allow any time for the milder doctrines of peace to take effect, and who moſt of them profeſſed a religion whoſe precepts were the very reverſe of thoſe of Chriſtianity. The undulations of that ſtorm remained long after, and the corruptions, the degeneracy, and diſſentions of the church, prevented it from fulfilling its duty, even when order had been reſtored.

"The volume of duty, however, laid before us by Chriſt, continued always the ſame; and whoever conſulted it even in the dark interpretations which ambition or avarice, ſuperſtition or ignorance, but too often put upon it, found benefit from it in the end. Its progreſs, though perpetually interrupted, was finally certain, and mankind at length enjoy what was intended for them long ago.

"Let no one here ſay with too great confidence, that the order now eſtabliſhed in the law, is owing to extraneous cauſes: to the natural tendency of men towards improvement; the eſtabliſhment of government; the extention of commerce; or the progreſs of the ſciences. —Theſe can no doubt do much; but could they of themſelves alone have reformed the law of nations, the ſets of people we have juſt mentioned would have preſented us with a code of maxims, and a practical conduct, far different from that which we have been able to diſcover, even at the very higheſt points of their refinement. Beſides, nations, with one or two exceptions, have for the moſt part dated their progreſs in morality from the epoch of their converſion; and in the hiſtory of the corruptions of the church itſelf, it is conſpicuous, that morality has been at its loweſt ebb, when the church was moſt abandoned to worldly affairs, or moſt corrupted by bigotry and ſuperſtition. The progreſs of mankind, however, went on in all other points, notwithſtanding their depraved notion of Chriſtianity; had it alſo gone on in the ſcience of morals, the argument would be fairly deſtroyed.

"An example of the truth of theſe obſervations is but too near us both in time and place; for it has been obvious, that the people of France were led, firſt to tolerate, and then to rejoice in the ſhocking crimes of their convention, in almoſt exact

exact proportion as the latter was able to extinguish among them their ideas of religion. They afford us the proof also of the connection between morality and the law of nations, since the extinction of the one, was the signal for those pretentions and usurpations which justly drove away their ambassador from a respectable republic, (America), and called the greater part of Europe to arms."

*The Proceedings of the Governor and Assembly of Jamaica*, in regard to the Maroon Negroes: published by Order of the Assembly. To which is prefixed, An Introductory Account, containing Observations on the Disposition, Character, Manners, and Habits of Life, of the Maroons; and a Detail of the Origin, Progress, and Termination of the late War between those People and the White Inhabitants. 5s. boards. *Stockdale.*

AS this comes from the pen of Mr Edwards, the respectable author of the History of the West Indies, and as the history and nature of this horde of beings (the Maroons) is little known, we shall endeavour to give an abstract of this interesting account.

"THE Maroons were a part of the Spanish slaves, who, when Jamaica was conquered by the English, in 1655, remained in the fastnesses of the island; and from their retreats continually harrassed the British planters. They have often been reinforced by fugitive slaves, and in 1730 were grown so formidable, that it became expedient to strengthen the colony by two regiments of regular troops. These, with the militia, were divided into parties; one of which, under Captain Stoddart, in 1734, attacked one of the Maroon towns called Nanny, situated on one of the highest mountains of the island; and he so far destroyed or dispersed its inhabitants, that they were not afterwards able to effect any enterprise of moment in that quarter. Another victory gained over them, by Captain Edmonds, so reduced their strength, and filled them with so much terror, that they did not again appear in any considerable body. Still, however, they continued to distress the planters: setting fire to the cane-fields, killing the cattle, carrying off the slaves, and barbarously murdering such whites as came in their way, and were unable to make resistance. To prevent these horrid depredations, the Assembly ordered barracks, fortified with bastions, to be erected in different parts of the island, and as near as possible to the enemy's favourite haunts. Every barrack was furnished with a pack of dogs; it being foreseen that these animals would prove extremely serviceable, not only in guarding against surprises in the night, but in tracking the enemy."

About the year 1737, the Assembly took into their pay 200 Mosquito Indians, who were considerably serviceable, and the most proper troops to be employed in a *bush-fighting* warfare.

In 1738, Governor Trelawney proposed to the Maroon chiefs overtures of peace; the Maroons embraced the offer; articles of pacification* were drawn up and ratified; and 2500 acres of land were assigned and secured, by the legislature, to them and their posterity *in perpetuity*. "Thus an end was at length happily put to this tedious and ruinous contest; a contest which, while it lasted, seemed to portend nothing less than the ruin of the whole colony."

Hitherto the account given by Mr Edwards is extracted from Long's History of Jamaica: but he now, in section 2, takes up the subject where that writer left it; and, after some pertinent reflections on the character and manners of the Maroons, traces the causes of their late revolt to its origin, and gives a short but comprehensive narrative of the war itself, their defeat, submission, and expulsion from the island.

We now come to the immediate cause of the late Maroon war. "In July 1795, two Maroons, having stolen some pigs, were apprehended, sent to Montego Bay, and tried for this offence against the law. The jury found them guilty; and the magistrates ordered each of them to receive thirty lashes, on the bare back: which flagellation was performed by the black overseer of the workhouse negroes. On the discharge of these men, and on their arrival at Trelawney Town, the whole body of Maroons assembled; and, after having forced Captain Craskell, the superintendant, to quit the town, they sent a written defiance to the magistrates of Montego Bay, and threatened to attack that town on the 20th of that month. In consequence, General Palmer called out the militia; and eighty dragoons were, at his request, sent

* The articles are given at large by the author, at the conclusion of his first *Section*.

from Spaniſh town by Lord Balcarres, the Governor of Jamaica. The Maroons then demanded, and obtained a conference. They complained not of the *injuſtice* nor of the *ſeverity* of the puniſhment that had been inflicted on their two companions, but of the *diſgraceful manner* in which it had been executed. They demanded reparation for this indignity, an addition to their lands, the diſmiſſion of their ſuperintendant Captain Craſkell, and the re-appointment of their former ſuperintendant, James. It was promiſed to them that their grievances ſhould be laid before the Commander in Chief, and they were aſſured that the Governor ſhould be requeſted to grant them the laſt of their demands; with which they ſeemed ſatiſfied.

"It ſoon appeared, however, that the Maroons, in deſiring this conference, were actuated ſolely by motives of treachery. They were apprized that a fleet of 150 ſhips was to ſail for Great Britain on the morning of the 26th; and they knew that very few Britiſh troops remained in the iſland, except the 83d regiment, and that this very regiment was, at that juncture, under orders to embark for St Domingo; they hoped, therefore, by the ſpecious and deluſive appearance of deſiring a conference, to quiet ſuſpicion, until the July fleet was ſailed, and the regulars tarry departed. In the meanwhile, they pleaſed themſelves with the hope of prevailing on the negroe ſlaves throughout the iſland to join them; and by riſing in a maſs, to enable them to exterminate the whites at a blow.

"The very day the conference was held, they began tampering with the negroes on the numerous and extenſive plantations in the neighbourhood of Montego Bay*. On ſome of theſe plantations their emiſſaries were cordially received and ſecreted; on others, the ſlaves themſelves voluntarily apprized their overſeers, that the Maroons were endeavouring to ſeduce them from their allegiance. Information of this nature was tranſmitted from many reſpectable quarters; but moſt of the gentlemen who had viſited the Maroons on the 20th, were ſo confident of their *fidelity* and *affection*, that the Governor, diſbelieving the charges againſt them, was prevailed on to ſet the troops embark, as originally intended, and they actually ſailed from Port Royal on the morning of the 29th, under convoy of the Succeſs Frigate."

Fortunately, the courſe from Port Royal to St Domingo is altogether againſt the wind; and at this time there was alſo a ſtrong *lee* current. A faſt-ſailing boat, diſpatched after the fleet by Lord Balcarres's order, came up with them off the north-eaſt end of Jamaica, and delivered orders to Captain Pigot, of the Succeſs, to change his courſe, and to proceed with the tranſports to Montego Bay. The 83d regiment, conſiſting of 1000 effective men, was landed on Auguſt 4. The unexpected arrival of ſo powerful a reinforcement immediately changed the face of affairs:—yet farther meaſures were adopted. The whole iſland was put under martial law: 130 more dragoons, commanded by Colonel Sandford, and a detachment of 100 men from the 62d regiment, with 150 diſmounted dragoons, embarked at the ſame time for Black River; and the Governor himſelf left Spaniſh-town for Montego Bay, in order to command in perſon at the ſcene of action.

The Maroons now became undecided in their counſels: many of the old men recommended peace; and the whole of the *decompoſing* people declared in favour of the Whites*: but the more violent counſels of the younger prevailed; and war was the final determination. Lord Balcarres, after having ineffectually ſummoned them to ſurrender, gave orders to the troops to take poſſeſſion of all the known paths leading to Trelawney Town.—The Maroons having aſſembled in a body near a village called their *New Town*, behind which were their proviſion grounds, Colonel Sandford was ordered to take poſſeſſion of thoſe grounds. He proceeded thither accordingly: but, being informed that the Maroons had retired to the ruins of the old town, he, contrary to his orders, puſhed after them: a fatal error, to which he himſelf and many brave men fell ſacrifices. The retreat of the Maroons was a feint, to draw him into an ambuſcade; and the troops had marched only about half way, when a heavy fire enſued from the buſhes, by which 37 men were immediately killed, and many wounded. They puſhed forwards, however, drove the Maroons from their hiding places,

* Trelawney Town is ſituated within 20 miles of the town and harbour of Montego Bay.

* Thirty-eight actually ſurrendered themſelves to the Governor's mercy.

and

and brought back with them moſt of their wounded companions.

By the death of Colonel Sandford, the command devolved on Colonel Fitch: but his caution alſo, notwithſtanding the warning juſt given, the Maroons found means to elude, and he periſhed nearly in the ſame manner. Their head quarters were now eſtabliſhed at a place of moſt difficult acceſs, called the *Cockpits*; whence they ſent out parties, who deſtroyed ſeveral plantations, carried off the negroes, and murdered the whites in cold blood, without diſtinction of ſex or age.

It now appeared, that the ſuppreſſion of the Maroons would prove a taſk of greater difficulty than had been imagined. The General Aſſembly was convened towards the end of September; and, on this occaſion, the expedient that had been adopted in a former war, of employing *dogs* to diſcover the concealment of the Maroons, was recommended as a fit example to be followed in the preſent juncture: It was therefore reſolved to ſend to Cuba for an hundred of thoſe animals, and to engage a ſufficient number of Spaniſh huntſmen to direct their operations. Mr E. here enters into a ſerious and argumentative apology for the conduct of the Aſſembly in having recourſe to an expedient apparently ſo ferocious; the reader will find it at p. 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70. The paſſage, however intereſting, is too long to allow of our inſerting it.—Meanwhile the Maroons were ſtill carrying on a predatory, or rather a devaſtating war; yet they expreſſed a willingneſs to ſubmit, *to deliver up their arms, to ſurrender their lands, and intermix with the general body of free blacks, in ſuch parts of the country as the colonial government ſhould approve*; and "it was the opinion (ſays Mr E.) of many wiſe and worthy men, that thoſe overtures ought to be accepted:"—but others thought that a compromiſe of any kind with a lawleſs banditti, who had ſlaughtered ſo many excellent men, and had murdered in cold blood even women in childbed, and infants at the breaſt, was a ſhameful ſacrifice of the public honour, a total diſregard to the dictates of juſtice, and an encouragement to the reſt of the Maroons.—It was alſo alledged, that the Maroons were not in earneſt.

While theſe matters were diſcuſſing, forty Spaniſh hunters and about 100 dogs arrived. Such extraordinary accounts were immediately ſpread of the ſavage nature and appearance of theſe animals, as made a ſurpriſing impreſſion on the minds of the negroes. Though generally not larger than the Britiſh ſhepherd's dog, theſe dogs of Cuba were repreſented as equal to the maſtiff in bulk, to the bull-dog in courage, to the blood-hound in ſcent, and to the grey-hound in agility.—Theſe reports had a powerful and ſalutary effect on the fears of the Maroons, and ſoon brought about a negotiation, followed by a treaty.

Soon after the ſubſequent minutes were printed by order of the Aſſembly, his Majeſty's ſhip the Dover, with two tranſports in company, having on board the Trelawney Maroons, (in number about ſix hundred) provided with all manner of neceſſaries, as well for their accommodation at ſea, as for the change of climate, ſailed from Bluefields in Jamaica, for Halifax in North America, the beginning of laſt June. They were accompanied by William Dawes Quarrel, and Alexander Ouchterlony, Eſqrs; commiſſioners appointed by the Aſſembly, with authority and inſtructions (ſubject to his Majeſty's approbation and further orders) to purchaſe lands in Lower Canada, or any where elſe his Majeſty ſhould pleaſe to appoint, for the future eſtabliſhment and ſubſiſtence of thoſe Maroons, as a free people. The commiſſioners had orders withal, to provide them the means of a comfortable maintenance, until they were habituated to the country and climate. The ſum of 25,000l. was allowed for thoſe purpoſes.

*Tranſlation of the Letters of a Hindoo Rajah.* By Miſs Hamilton.

THESE letters are filled with ſound ſenſe and obſervation; they illuſtrate in a very lively manner the remark, that many of our practices, habits, and ſentiments, depend entirely on cuſtom, prejudice, and education.

As a ſpecimen we ſhall tranſcribe his ſhrewd remarks on the public worſhip of the capital.

"HAVING heard that the firſt day of the week, Andeɛtya-war*, was appointed for attending the worſhip of the Deity

* It is very remarkable, that the days of the week are named in the Shanſcrit language, from the ſame planets to which they were aſſigned by the Greeks and Romans.

in public, I expreſſed to Delomond my wiſh of being preſent at the ſolemnity. He declined accompanying me, but ſent to a lady of his acquaintance, to beg ſhe would accommodate me with a ſeat in her pew. Theſe pews are little incloſures, into which the greateſt part of the temple is ſubdivided. We walked up to that which belonged to this Bibby, preceded by one of her ſervants, who opened the door of the pew, and followed by another in the ſame livery, who carried the books of prayer; with which having preſented us, he retired. I have already obſerved to you, how ſcrupulouſly the Engliſh Chriſtians adhere to thoſe precepts of their Maſter, which ſeem to diſcountenance the outward appearance of a religious ſentiment, and ſo rigorouſly do they abſtain from the diſplay of theſe delightful emotions, that they who will thankfully acknowledge the moſt trifling obligation conferred upon them by the meaneſt of their fellow-creatures, would bluſh to be ſuſpected of gratitude to the beneficent Governor of the Univerſe! Inſtead of behaving in this temple as if they had aſſembled together to ſend up their united tribute of praiſe, thankſgiving, and humble ſupplication to the Moſt High, ſo ſucceſsfully did they affect the concealment of their devotional ſentiments, that no one would have ſuſpected they had met together for any other purpoſe but that of ſtaring at each other's dreſs. I muſt, however, make an exception with regard to a ſmall number of people, very plainly habited, who ſtood during the ſervice in a part of the church called the aiſle; theſe appeared not to have arrived at ſuch a ſtate of perfection. They could not affect indifference, as they joined in the petition for averting the puniſhment of ſins, nor conceal the intereſt they had in the glad tidings of eternal happineſs. They liſtened with peculiar complacency to the accounts of Him who "came to preach the goſpel to the poor," and the hopes of his favour ſeemed to inundate with joy the boſom of reſignation. A female of advanced life, in whom all theſe emotions were diſcernible, particularly arreſted my attention. The paleneſs of her countenance ſpoke her want of health, and the lines which ſorrow had traced in it, accorded with the ſable weeds of widowhood, which ſhe wore. She appeared ready to faint from the fatigue of long ſtanding, and made a modeſt application to a perſon who ſeemed to act as porter to the pews, for admittance into one of them. To my aſtoniſhment ſhe met with a refuſal, nor did any one of the gorgeouſly apparelled Chriſtians who ſat in them, appear to be any way concerned for her ſituation; indeed, they all ſeemed to regard thoſe who worſhipped God from the aiſles, as if they had been beings of an inferior race. I was, however, well convinced, that Chriſtianity admits of no ſuch diſtinctions; and ſuppoſing the Chriſtian lady who ſat by me, though her eyes were roving to all parts of the temple, was, in reality, too much engaged in her devotions to obſerve what paſſed, I took the liberty of acting for her, and opening the door of the pew, invited the poor ſick ſtranger to a ſeat. At that moment the prieſt was preferring a petition in favour of all "fatherleſs children and widows, and all who are deſolate and oppreſſed;" to which the great lady had juſt uttered the reſponſe of "We beſeech thee to hear us, good Lord!" when obſerving the poor woman by her ſide, her face inſtantly fluſhed a deep crimſon, rage and indignation darted from her eyes, and telling the fainting ſtranger that ſhe was very impudent for daring to intrude herſelf into her preſence, ſhe turned her out into the aiſle. I was weak enough to be ſhocked at the behaviour of this well-dreſſed votary of chriſtianity. "Ah!" thought I, "can it be that this woman can be ſo conſcious of her ſuperiority in every thing which conſtitutes diſtinction in the eye of the Omnipotent, as to conſider herſelf worthy of ſitting in his preſence, while ſhe ſpurns from her own, the humble child of poverty and affliction?"

*Philoſophical Tranſactions of the Royal Society of London*, for the year 1795. Part II.

WE ſhall, as uſual, give the ſubjects of the papers contained in this volume, with the names of the authors.

Deſcription of a Forty Feet Reflecting Teleſcope. By Mr Herſchell.

The Binomial Theorem demonſtrated by the Principles of Multiplication. By Abram Robertſon, M. A. of Chriſt Church, Oxford, F. R. S.

An account of the Trigonometrical Survey carried on in the years 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1794, by order of his Grace the Duke of Richmond, late Maſter General

neral of the Ordnance. By Lieut.-Col. Edward Williams, and Capt. William Mudge, of the Royal Artillery, and Mr Isaac Dalby.

Obſervations on the Influence which excites the Muſcles of Animals to contract, in Mr Galvani's Experiments. By William Charles Wells, M. D. F. R. S.

Obſervations on the beſt Method of producing Artificial Cold. By Mr Richard Walker.

Obſervations on the Structure of the Eyes of Birds. By Mr Pierre Smith, Student of Phyſic.

Experiments and Obſervations to inveſtigate the nature of a kind of Steel, manufactured at Bombay, and there called Wootz; with remarks on the Properties and Compoſition of the different States of Iron. By George Pearſon, M. D. F. R. S.

WELDING CAST STEEL.

It may be uſeful for artiſts to obſerve, that it has been generally ſuppoſed impoſſible to weld caſt ſteel, or bar ſteel refined by fuſion, either to common ſteel or iron; and the reaſon is, that in a welding heat, it runs away under the hammer like ſand:—but, though caſt ſteel in a welding heat is too ſoft to bear being hammered, Sir Thomas Frankland has found, by repeated experiments, that caſt ſteel in a *white heat*, and iron in a *welding heat*, unite completely. When that proceſs is intended, the ſteel and iron muſt be heated ſeparately, and the union of the parts propoſed to be joined muſt be effected at a ſingle heat.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

### LONDON.

*The Rural Economy of the Weſt of England*: including Devonſhire, and parts of Somerſetſhire, Dorſetſhire, and Cornwall. Together with Minutes in Practiſe. By Mr Marſhall. 8vo. 2 Vols. 12s. Boards. *Nicol, &c.*

*Experiments and Obſervations relating to the Analyſis of Atmoſpherical Air*; alſo, farther Experiments relating to the Generation of Air from Water. Read before the American Philoſophical Society, Feb. 5. and 19, 1796; and printed in their tranſactions. To which are added, Conſiderations on the Doctrine of Phlogiſton, and the Decompoſition of Water, addreſſed to Meſſrs Berthollet, &c. By Joſeph Prieſtley, LL. D. F. R. S. &c. 8vo. 2s. Printed at Philadelphia; reprinted in London, for *Johnſon*.

*Clarentine*, a Novel. 12mo. 3 Vols. 10s. 6d. Boards. *Robinſons*.

*The Sorcerer*; a Tale, from the German of Veit Weiber. 8vo. 2s. 6d. *Johnſon*.

*The Black Valley*; a Tale, from the German of Veit Weiber. Author of the Sorcerer. 8vo. 2s. 6d. *Johnſon*.

*Poetic Triffles*. 8vo. 2s. *Dilly*.

*Poems on intereſting Events in the Reign of Edward* III. Written in 1362. By Laurence Minot. With a Preface, Diſſertations, Notes, and a Gloſſary. 8vo. 6s. *Egerton*.

*The Alps*. A moral and deſcriptive Poem of the Great Haller. Tranſlated from the German by Henry Barret. 8vo. 1s. *Parſons*.

*William and Ellen*. A Tale. 12mo *Reynel*. —The object of this ballad appears to be to render Kirconnel Lee in Scotland a claſſical place, by aſſociating the ſpot with the memory of a pathetic love adventure: the poem ſurpaſſes many, but has been ſurpaſſed by more.

*Remarks on Mr Burke's Two Letters*, "on the Propoſals for Peace with the Regicide Directory of France." By S. F. Waddington, Eſq. 8vo. 1s. *Johnſon*.

This is a lively and ſenſible, though haſty and ſomewhat negligent production. There are ſeveral others performances of a ſimilar nature, juſt publiſhed.

*The Hiſtory of the Innoculation of the Small Pox in Great Britain*; comprehending a review of all the Publications on the Subject: with an experimental Inquiry into the relative Advantages of every Meaſure which has been deemed neceſſary in the Proceſs of Inoculation. By William Woodville, M. D. Phyſician to the Small Pox and Innoculation Hoſpitals. In 2 Vols. Vol. I. 7s. Boards. *Phillip*.

### EDINBURGH.

*Correſpondance Entre un Voyageur et un Miniſtre*, en Octobre et November 1692. Avec des remarques ſur l'origine et l'objet final de la guerre actuelle, et ſur la poſition politique de l'Europe en Fevrier 1796. 2s. ſewed. *Creech*.

Alſo, a Tranſlation of the above, accompanied with a Preface. By N. William Wraxall, Eſq; 2s. 6d. ſewed. *Creech*

*Practical Aſtronomy*, containing tables of Sun, Moon, and Planets, with directions for uſing them, on the ſolution of a variety of Problems, among which are the Prediction and Calculation of Eclipſes. The whole adapted to the circumſtances of ſuch Students as know only Arithmetic and the Circles of the Sphere. By Alex. Ewing, teacher of Mathematics. 8vo. 5s. 6d. Boards. *Hill*.

*An Anſwer* to the Second Part of Paine's Age of Reaſon. By James Tytler, late of Edin-

Edinburgh;—Author of many articles in the Encyclopædia Britannica, &c. &c. 1s. *Mudie & Son.*

*Letters from a Farmer*, to a Justice of the Peace, of the County of East Lothian, on the Bill for Regulating the Sale of Corn by Weight. 8vo. 9d. *Hogan & Co.*

THE great variety and disparity of weights and measures used throughout the kingdom, has long been felt as a grievance, and has been daily the subject of complaint. The bill intended to be brought into parliament, to obtain an act for selling corn by weight, will, in the opinion of many, at least in part, remedy the evil. The subject is certainly of considerable importance, and gentlemen well versant in country affairs, hold different opinions regarding it; we are happy to find two able champions coming forward to support their opposite opinions in so candid and open a manner; we believe both are actuated by the same motives, the good of the country. The present performance was called forth by the publication of a pamphlet, by George Buchan Hepburn, Esq; Advocate, some months ago. The author's object is,

*1st*, To describe a few of the inconveniences which the public sustain from the diversity of measures. *2dly*, Attempt to show that selling all corn by weight is the best way of removing those inconveniences. *3dly*, Answer the objections which have been urged against the bill for regulating the sale of corn by weight. *Lastly*, Suggest a few amendments on the clauses of that bill.

When speaking of the inconveniences that attend the selling of corn by measure, the author observes, "It is none of the least advantages of the proposed bill, that it prevents all those slight-of-hand practices used in filling and rolling a measure of capacity, which, under the management of a clever hand, are equal to *one per cent.* So long as measures are used, it is not to be doubted, that every person will endeavour to fill them as dexterously as possible; and for doing so no blame can be incurred. But weighing of corn puts every one upon an equal footing, and will also be the means of preventing those numberless disputes which continually happen in every market about the size of corn measures."

In letter 2d he answers the objections against the bill, urged by his opponent; he writes as follows:

"Our author, in the excess of zeal to preserve the measures of capacity, impeaches the common sense of the people. "*Mankind*," he says, "*when taken in the gross cannot be considered as rational animals; they are only a bundle of habits and prejudices.*" Wise legislators, according to his account, humour these prejudices, and never attack or touch any prejudice or custom not absolutely immoral.

"Here again he is equally unfortunate as he was in the instance of the shaving of beards; the people, in general, are keen for selling corn by weight, and if they are influenced by prejudices, these are wholly in favour of the present bill. It would be invidious to suppose, that the author has mistaken his own character for that of the people, although it is plain he labours under prejudices of the strongest kind. With him every thing is valuable, according to its antiquity and custom; or usage, in his sight, sanctifies the greatest absurdity. He sets custom and usage above an act of parliament, although it is an established maxim in jurisprudence, that no usage or custom can set aside an established law. The British legislature have generally been considered to possess as much wisdom as any other government in Europe, and yet they have repeatedly attacked and abolished usages and customs "*not absolutely immoral.*" Has he forgot the jurisdiction act, which certainly touched and abolished a number of usages and customs? Has he forgot the act obliging the Highlanders to wear breeches? Has he forgot the act for changing the computation of time, i. e. the stile; or the different acts for reducing the rate of interest? all which, and many more of similar tendency, have been passed within his own time. Nay, is not every law in the statute book, a departure, in a smaller or greater degree, from common usage and custom, and yet he would make us believe, that no abuse should be corrected unless it is absolutely immoral."

Our limits prevent further quotations, we must therefore refer the reader to the pamphlet itself, which is concise, and to us appears satisfactory.

## POETRY.

ODE FOR THE YEAR M,DCC,XCVII.

BY HENRY JAMES PYE, ESQ. POET LAUREAT.

O'ER the vex'd bosom of the deep,
When, rushing wild, with frantic haste,
The Winds, with angry pinions, sweep
The surface of the watry waste;
Though the firm vessel proudly brave
The inroad of the giant wave,
Though the bold seaman's firmer soul
View, unappall'd, the mountains roll;
Yet still along the murky sky,
Anxious, he throws th' enquiring eye,

If,

If, haply, through the gloom that round him low'rs,
Shoots one refu'gent ray, prelude of happier hours.

See Albion, round her rocky coaſt
While loud the rage of battle roars,
Deride's Invaſion's haughty boaſt,
Saf. in wave-encircled ſhores;
Still ſafer in her dauntleſs band,
Lord of her Seas, o. Guardians of her Land,
Whoſe patriotic zeal, whoſe bold empriſe,
Roſe, as the ſtorm of danger roſe;
Yet, temp'ring Glory's ardent flame
With gentle Mercy's milder claim,
She bends from ſcenes of blood th' averted eye,
And courts the charms of Peace mid ſhouts of Victory.

She courts in vain; the ruthleſs foe,
Deep drench'd with blood, yet thirſting ſtill for more,
Deaf to the ſhrieks of agonizing woe,
Views with rapacious eye each neighb'ring ſhore;
"Mine be th' eternal ſway," aloud he cries,
"Where'er my ſword prevails, my conq'ring banner flies."

Genius of Albion, hear!
Graſp the ſtrong ſhield, and lift the avenging ſpear,
By wreaths thy dauntleſs ſons of yore
From Callia's craſt victorious tore,
By Edward's lily-blazon'd ſhield,
By Agincourt's high-trophied field;
By rath Iberia's naval pride,
Whelm'd by Eliza's bark beneath the ſtormy tide;
Call forth thy warrior race again,
Breathing, to ancient mood, the ſoul inſpiring ſtrain;
"To arms, to arms, your enſigns ſtraight diſplay!
"Now ſet the battle in array;
"The Oracle for War declares,
"Succeſs depends upon our hearts and ſpears!
"Britons, ſtrike home, revenge your coun-
"try's wrongs.
"Fight, and record yourſelves in Druids
"ſongs!"

## LINES

TO THE MEMORY OF R. BURNS.

*By the Author of the Life of Lorenzo de Medici.*

PORTENTOUS ſang the hollow blaſt,
That, ſorrow-freighted, ſouthward paſt;
I heard the ſound and ſtood aghaſt
In ſolemn dread;
The mournful truth is told at laſt,
For Burns is dead.

Ah! ſweeteſt minſtrel? Nature's child?
Could not thy native wood-notes wild,
Thy manly ſenſe, thy manners mild,
And ſprightly glee,
The ghaſtly tyrant have beguil'd
To ſet thee free?

Unfriended, deſtitute, and young,
No fortune o'er thy cradle hung,
And penury had check'd thy ſong,
But check'd in vain;
Till death, with murdering pang,
Has clo'd the ſtrain.

Thus, midſt the cold of winter's ſnows,
The bright and naked ſnow-drop blows
Awhile its native beauty glows,
And charms the eyes,
Till paſt ſome ruthleſs ſpoiler goes
And crops the prize!

But not for thee, O Bard, the let
In wild oblivion's ſhade to rot,
Like thoſe unhonour'd and forgot,
'Tho' unfeeling great
Who knew thy worth, but haſtened not
To ſooth thy fate.

Whilſt Love to Beauty pours the ſigh;
Whilſt Genius ſhall with Nature vie;
Whilſt Pity, from the melting eye,
Shall claim regard,
Thy honour'd name ſhall never die,
Immortal Bard.

Put oft as Winter o'er the plain
Shall pour at eve the beating rain,
The Hind ſhall call his ſocial train
Around the fire,
To liſten to ſome thrilling ſtrain
Of thy lov'd lyre.

Whether to "Heaven's Eternal King,"
Thou ſtrike the deep reſounding ſtring,
Whilſt riſing on devotion's wing
Hope ſoars above,
To happier realms of endleſs ſpring,
And boundleſs love:

Or whether lighter themes beguile
The moment of relaxing toil,
Bidding on Labour's front the ſmile
Of Pleaſure ſit,
The roof re-echoing all the while
To genuine wit:

Or if wild Fancy ſeize the rein,
Whilſt Horror thrills thro' every vein,
And ſp'rits and elves, an awful train,
Their orgies keep;
Or warlocks o'er the frighted plain
At midnight ſweep.

As works the ſpell, the liſt'ning band
Aghaſt in mute attention ſtand;
Again thou wav'ſt thy magic wand
Of power ſo rare,
And all the ſcene, by Fancy plann'd
Diſſolves in air.

Thine too, the charm of ſocial hearts,
Where wit its vivid lightning darts,

And

And converſe keen to age imparts
The fire of youth,
While from the fierce concuſſion ſtarts
The ſpark of truth.

What tho' thy bold untutor'd ſtrain
The Critic's pedant laws diſdain;
Not all the wire-cudg'd minion train
E'er pour'd a note,
So ſweet as echoing o'er the plain
The "Wood Lark's" throat.

Old *Coila*, ſtill whoſe brakes among
Thy infant hands the wild harp ſtrung,
Shall flouriſh in thy deathleſs ſong
With laſting fame,
And *Ayr* ſhall henceforth roll along
A claſſic ſtream.

But thou, O! bard, in Silence laid,
Alas! what ſhall ſoothe thy penſive ſhade,
For worth of genius ill repaid,
With bounty ſcant;
And hours of ſorrow unallay'd,
And pain, and want!

See o'er thy ſong, as loud it ſwells,
The lordly Thane delighted dwells,
Or to his fair his rapture tells,
By thee inſpir'd.
Her boſom, as the ſtrain impells,
Or thaw'd, or fir'd.

Around him, ſee, to guard his ſtate,
A train of pamper'd minions wait,
And ſee, to form his daily treat
Each climate join,
Where Iceland's froſt, and Aſia's heat,
Their gifts combine.

Yet whilſt he revels unconfin'd,
Through all the treaſures of thy mind,
No generous boon to thee aſſign'd,
Relieves thy care;
To folly or to vice aſſign'd,
What pomp can ſpare.

For rights withheld, or freedom ſold,
Corruption aſks the promiſ'd gold;
Or in licentious ſplendor bold,
His titled ſame,
Squanders in riot uncontroll'd
What worth ſhould claim.

From hill to hill, from plain to plain,
Extends the Chieftain's proud domain,
That, half a deſart, aſks in vain
For culture due;
Whilſt cold inaction chills thy vein,
And ruſts thy plow.

Meanwhile thy youthful vigour flies,
The ſtorms of age unpitying riſe,
And wounded ſuperſtition tries
To thwart thy way;
And loath'd dependence ambuſh'd lies
To ſeize his prey.

Yet high above thy reptile foes
Thy towering ſoul unconquer'd roſe,
Love of the muſe their charms diſcloſe,
The bags retire,
And thy expanding boſom glows
With heavenly fire.

Go, builder of a deathleſs name,
Thy country's glory and her ſhame:
Go, and th' immortal guerdon claim
To genius due:
While rolling centuries thy fame
Shall ſtill renew.

*FOR THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.*

## A FRIEND'S ADVICE.

OH! Enbrough 'prentice callants hear,
While I ſpeak counſel in your ear,
An gif ye fallow't, never fear
But ye'll obtain it:
I mean *reſpect an worldly gear*;
For I hae ſeen it.

An' principally a' you brether,
Wha're far removed frae yeer mither,
I beg ye'll hearken a' thegither,
To hear me, ſerious;
An' oh! that ye may a' conſither
My words imperious.

Firſt, fear the Lord—his name adore,
And to his altar frequent roar,
Beſeechin' he would give his lore,
Unto thee ever:
And loving-kindneſs more and more,
Which faileth never.

Nieſt love your parents—them obey,
(Practiſin' ſtrictly what they ſay)
As far's conſiſtent wi' the way
O' Great Jehovah;
Who ſits with univerſal ſway
Enthron'd above a'.

Nieſt to your maſter keep your aith,
Which is, as your indenture ſaith,
That ye will ſerve 'im wi' gude faith,
An' 'oneſt dealin':
An' that he ne'er ſhall come to ſkaith,
By fraud an' ſtealin'.

Such faith the Scriptures is the track
In which a man muſt firmly walk,
If he doth not, or turneth back,
His doom is written:
So pray—That ye mayn't ſuffer wrack,
By ſin committin'.

For ae, d'ye mind the day that's comin',
When He, nor heedin' man nor woman,
Will wi' his trumpet a' folks ſummon,
That e'er war livin';
An' as their actions were here, doomin'
To Hell or Heaven.

I'll now conclude my ſage advice,
In hopes it will mak ſome ſae wiſe,
As to forſake the paths o' vice,
An out o' meaſure,
They ſhall obtain Eternal joys,
Eternal Pleaſure!

PETTO SCOTICE.

# PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

### SUBSIDIARY TREATY.

Dec. 30. *Mr Whitbread* enquired whether a Subsidiary Treaty did not exist between his Britannic Majesty and the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel; and whether any money had been transmitted in consequence of that Treaty?

*Mr Pitt* replied, that such a Treaty had been concluded so long ago as the 14th of June last, but, from some inadvertency, the ratifications had not been exchanged.

*Mr Whitbread* moved for production of a copy of that Treaty; which being agreed to, he followed up that motion by another, For an Account of the sums of Money that had been issued (if any) in consequence of the Treaty.—Agreed to.

### KING'S MESSAGE.

Jan. 2. The order of the day was read for taking his Majesty's message into consideration; which was as follows:

"GEORGE R.

"It is with the utmost concern that his Majesty acquaints the House of Commons, that his earnest endeavours to effect the restoration of peace have been unhappily frustrated, and that negociation in which he was engaged has been abruptly broken off by the peremptory refusal of the French Government to treat, except upon a basis evidently inadmissible, and by their having, in consequence, required his Majesty's Plenipotentiary to quit Paris within 48 hours.

"His Majesty has directed the several memorials and papers which have been exchanged in the course of the late discussion, and the account transmitted to his Majesty of its final result, to be laid before the House.

"From these papers, his Majesty trusts, it will be proved to the whole world, that his conduct has been guided by a sincere desire to effect the restoration of peace on principles suited to the relative situation of the Belligerent Powers, and essential for the permanent interests of his kingdoms, and the general security of Europe: whilst his enemies have advanced pretensions at once inconsistent with those objects, unsupported even on the grounds on which they professed to act, and repugnant both to the system established by repeated treaties, and to the principles and practices which have hitherto regulated the intercourse of independent nations.

"In this situation, his Majesty has the consolation of reflecting, that the continuance of the calamities of war can be imputed only to the unjust and exorbitant views of his enemies; and his Majesty, looking forward with anxiety to the moment when they may be disposed to act on different principles, places in the mean time the fullest reliance, under the protection of Providence, on the wisdom and firmness of his parliament, on the tried valour of his forces by sea and land, and on the zeal, public spirit, and resources of his kingdoms, for vigorous and effectual support in the prosecution of a contest, which does not depend on his Majesty to terminate, and which involves in it the security and permanent interests of this country, and of Europe."

*Mr Pitt* began by stating, that various and important considerations would arise from the discussion of this subject, and a variety of opinions would, no doubt, prevail; but all must concur in sentiments of regret at the abrupt failure of the negociation, and the necessity of persevering in a contest undertaken, however, in consequence of complicated aggressions on the part of the enemy, for the independence of Great Britain, and the general security of Europe, the unavoidable alternative must be matter of deep regret, and a disappointment to our sanguine expectations for the restoration of peace. These were the feelings of the House, but they were feelings of regret unaccompanied by dejection; for there was nothing to regret but the obstinacy and extravagance of the enemy.

If it should appear that ministers were sincere and desirous for peace, and that they had attempted it on principles which ought to render it adequate and permanent, the attempt, though unsuccessful, would not be lost. It would convince Europe, that the enemy was the cause of the prolongation of the war, it would tend to unite England and to divide France.

With respect to the sentiments the house ought to express to his Majesty, there could be little difference of opinion. The necessity of persevering in

the conflict would likewise be admitted; and the only difference he could anticipate, would be in the mode of conducting it; the queſtion of the greateſt difficulty that preſented itſelf from the correſpondence, was the adequacy of the terms. After the propoſals had been made, and terms, founded on equitable grounds, had been offered; after refuſing to ſuffer thoſe terms to be diſcuſſed; after the inſulting order for his Majeſty's Miniſter to quit Paris; and after (he would not call it the *ſemblance* but the *mockery* by which the negociation was to be broken off on the part of the enemy) did not leave this country any option or alternative, as to the ultimate line of conduct it ought to adopt.

The two great and leading conſiderations he ſtated to be,

1. What ſentiments were fit to be expreſſed on the communication, with regard to the ſteps which ought to be taken in conſequence of the failure of the negociation. And,

2. Combining his Majeſty's offers with the reception, or rather rejection of the terms, and the conduct we ought to adopt in ſupport of our independence.

Mr Pitt now entered into a general review of all the circumſtances attending the overtures that had been made in order to a pacification, beginning with Mr Wickham's correſpondence with Monſ. Barthelemi, at Baſle, with a view to eſtabliſh that they had been uniformly made on principles ſanctioned by practice in the mode of terminating diſputes, and that the French had declared their determination not to liſten to any propoſitions that were not conſonant to their own conſtitution and laws, in contradiſtinction to the laws, and incompatible with the ſafety of independent nations.

Before the opening of the laſt campaign, and the reverſe of fortune that attended his arms, the Emperor renewed the propoſals, which were ſomewhat ſimilar to thoſe offered by his Majeſty, and came to a ſimilar termination. Objections of forms, points of etiquette, and a variety of other inauſpicious circumſtances, did not deter his Majeſty from another trial. The attempt was made through the intervention of the Daniſh Miniſter, who enquired whether the Directory would grant paſſports to a Miniſter Plenipotentiary. After much delay, he was informed they could not receive any papers from nations at war, through the medium of neutral powers, but on ſending an ambaſſador to their frontiers, they would furniſh him with a paſſport.

The mode which appeared moſt congenial to the wiſh of the Directory, was adopted under a flag of truce. Our object was to do what was moſt agreeable to reaſon and uſage. We were aware that the circumſtances of this negociation were new, and that much diſtruſt and jealouſy prevailed on both ſides.

The eſtabliſhment of ſome baſis became therefore expedient, to ſimplify and facilitate the complicated labyrinth of negociation. A baſis of mutual compenſation, and mutual conceſſion, it was our object and our duty to propoſe. We had little to aſk for ourſelves immediately, but much for our allies, and the compenſation was to be made out of the advantages which the valour and exertions of this country had wreſted from the enemy. Before the Directory produced their *counter projet* to the baſis, founded as it was on reaſonable, adequate, and juſt terms, and at this ſtage of the buſineſs, our Ambaſſador received a requiſition to deliver his ultimatum.

The baſis being accepted, contrary to the ſpeculations of ſome advocates for France in this country, the next ſubject was the particular terms. It was hardly neceſſary for him, he ſaid, to remind the Houſe, that in no negotiation whatever, were the terms a preliminary but a ſubſequent conſideration. Not one advance on the part of the enemy, but every difficulty ſtarted, and every difficulty overcome, and arrived at the threſhold of negotiation, notwithſtanding this ſlow and inert acceſſion to the baſis, his Majeſty's Miniſter is called upon to ſpecify terms on the admiſſion of theſe baſis.

In all times, eſpecially in complicated negotiations, parties have concurred to take upon themſelves jointly the burthen, as to the views of negotiation and the extent of their reſpective demands, becauſe if one of the parties took the burden excluſively, that party gives his opponent an opportunity of founding the eſtimate of conceſſion, and the extent of his demand. How great, therefore, the difficulty and the burthen to be obliged to announce the ſcheme of peace, without the appearance of reciprocity; yet in conformity to the baſis agreed upon, a plan was delivered in by Lord Malmeſbury, containing the outlines.

The alluſion naturally led to the two principal notes in the Correſpondence,

"The

"The Confidential Memorial on the principal objects of Compenſation and Reſtitution, Compenſation and mutual Arrangement," and "The Confidential Converſation between Lord Malmeſbury and M. Delacroix." The great point moſt pertinaciouſly inſiſted on by our Government, was the reſtitution of the Netherlands as a *ſine qua non*. Leſs we could not aſk, at the commencement of a negotiation for our allies, without the conſent of the Emperor, and no ſuch conſent had been obtained. In the ſubſequent ſtages, however, even this ſtipulation might have undergone certain modifications by conceſſions elſewhere. We likewiſe inſiſted upon the evacuation of Italy by the French troops, but Savoy, Nice, and Avignon did not come within the ſcope of this deſcription; and the late ſucceſſes of the Auſtrians in the Milaneſe, gave us reaſon to hope that that diſtrict was in poſſeſſion of the Emperor.

The Milaneſe ought, therefore, to be conſidered as a fair object of compenſation, ſubject to ſubſequent modifications and arrangements. The ſecurity of Europe required the ſacrifice, and the Emperor who had ſuffered adverſity, and retrieved proſperity with ſo much honour to himſelf, demands the conceſſion.

Upon the whole, he contended, that the offer to France was fair, juſt, and liberal, an offer which ſhewed our anxiety for a ſpeedy reſtoration of peace, and merited a fair and candid diſcuſſion from the enemy.

He next adverted to the ſyſtem of devaſtation which France had eſtabliſhed in the Weſt Indies, and propoſed that it ſhould be thrown into the ſcale of compenſation to the Emperor; and the conceſſions we might be diſpoſed to make in that quarter of ſome conqueſts; though a ſacrifice to our national reſources, evinced our deſire to act conſiſtently with honour more than policy, on general rather than on private intereſt.

With reſpect to the ceſſion of the Spaniſh part of St Domingo to France, he diſputed their right of transfer, and contended, that as it was in violation of the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, the conveyance was ſpurious.

The next topic was the relative ſituation of France, Spain, and Holand to Great Britain.—He commented at great length on the confidential Memorial on the peace with Spain and Holland, and likewiſe on Lord Malmeſbury's converſation with the French Miniſter for Foreign Affairs on this ſubject.

Holland, conſidered with a reference to its former connexion with this country, and its transfer to the ſcale of France, muſt render the reſtoration of any of the Colonies conquered by Great Britain gratuitous. What France had extorted from Holland, (the Dutch Netherlands) if reſtored, might be the means of ſecuring the Nethelands, and might form an uſeful barrier to Holland itſelf; but Holland, connected with France, France had no right to demand any of thoſe conqueſts in behalf of Holland. That part Miniſters were not diſpoſed to relax, as it would give France, connected with Holland, an opportunity of annoying us in thoſe parts moſt expoſed to aggreſſion; and any conceſſion, either ſeparately or jointly, would ſtill be an acceſſion of ſtrength to our moſt inveterate enemy.

France had refuſed to concede any of their conqueſts. To ſhew their inconſiſtency, this principle was ſuperceded by the admiſſion of a baſis of compenſation. But had this not been admitted, they were not to be allowed to eſtabliſh a principle deſtructive of the admitted practices of other nations. He then read a variety of extracts from the French Conſtitution, to prove that they acted upon a miſconſtruction of the article, which they contend prohibits the alienation of their conqueſts, and pointed out its abſurdity, by making territories by law, an integral part of France, which could not be ſo by conqueſts.

Having expatiated on the different topics of the Negociation, from its origin to the propoſition to renew it through the medium of couriers, he ſaid he was convinced there was not a hand in the Britiſh Cabinet who would ſign ſuch a propoſition, not a heart in the country who would ſanction ſo much infamy, not a ſubject in the Britiſh dominions who would conſent to be the courier of ſo much degradation.

He concluded by moving the Addreſs, which was a reverberation of the Meſſage.

*Mr Erſkine* roſe, under evident marks of indiſpoſition, to move an amendment, but after proceeding for a few minutes, he was obliged to ſit down quite exhauſted.

*Mr Fox* regretted that the Houſe and

the Country had been so suddenly deprived of the talents of his learned and honourable friend, and that the task should have devolved upon him.

Mr Fox then proceeded, and agreed with Mr Pitt, that the regret of the House ought not to be that of despondency: but what calamities were not to be apprehended from the continuance of a contest of four years; we were in a situation infinitely worse than when we engaged in it, aggravated too by the expenditure of 250 millions of money, and an additional annual burthen of six millions on the inhabitants of Great Britain, not to mention the incalculable sacrifice of many thousands of valuable lives.—A greater effusion of human blood, and greater havoc and devastation, had not, during a similar period, taken place since the days of Alexander.—The Minister, he said, was in the habit of amusing the House with elaborate details of the prosperity of the Country, in contradistinction to the ruined state of the enemy's finances.—We were perpetually told of the ruin of the enemy's finances; one time they were on the verge of the gulph, and at another time in the gulph, alternately, as it suited his purpose. Mr Fox replied to all the arguments urged by the Minister; and concluded by moving the following Amendment, which embraced the principal points of his speech: —That your Majesty's faithful Commons have seen, with inexpressible concern, that the negociations with the Directory of France have unhappily terminated; consider it their duty to speak with that freedom and earnestness, which becomes the representatives of a great people.—They regret, that from the memorials and other documents submitted to their consideration, your Majesty's ministers appear not to have been so sincere in their wishes, nor unequivocal in their professions for peace, as the House had been induced, from their repeated declarations, to suppose.—The insincerity of the overtures for peace, which have been made, is to be inferred from ministers having insisted on the surrender of the Netherlands by France. This they have thought proper to term a *sine qua non*—while the enemy, profiting by the bad conduct and incapacity of these ministers, urge their demands: But when only a very small portion of the enemy's territory was occupied by the arms of France; when the security of Holland might have been, in part, guaranteed by your arms; when your Majesty's allies were firm in their union, and apparently sincere in their professions, your Majesty's ministers did not employ themselves for the purpose of procuring peace to Great Britain, and to Europe; but on the contrary refused to enter into any negociation with the French Republic; not for any well-grounded reasons; not because the Republic was really hostile to all other nations; but upon an insulting and arrogant preference to the forms and usages of the ancient Courts of Europe, and by attempting to prove, that republican France could not maintain the accustomed relations of peace and amity.

Your Majesty's ministers having accordingly advised your Majesty, in your speeches from the throne, to continue a war ruinous in itself, and rendered still more so from the most calamitous sufferings, in consequence of the defection of the greater part of your allies. Your faithful Commons will proceed therefore to investigate the causes of that misconduct, on the part of ministers, which has involved the nation in these misfortunes.

*Mr Secretary Dundas* began a speech of considerable length, with remarking, that in the whole course of his recollection of Parliamentary debate, he never had heard so mischievous a speech as that now delivered by the right hon. gentleman. He thought proper, in the commencement of it, to declare, that he stood there as the professed advocate of the people of England. Why he took upon himself that appellation, or how he became entitled to it, he was at a loss to determine. It was certainly true, that he had been in the regular habit, for the last twelve or fourteen years, of finding fault with every administration of which he was not a member, and of advertising himself as the only man in the kingdom fit to hold the reins of government. It was clear that he did not contend so much for a change of measures as a change of men. Indeed, he had gone nearly the length of declaring, that he wished for a change of government. That the war, as far as it had gone, was unsuccessful, he (Mr Dundas) for one would deny. And he challenged all the hon. members who heard him, to produce a parallel in the history of Great Britain—where, after a four

years

years profecution of a war, this country had reaped fuch benefits, and atchieved fuch conqueſts; but even admitting the contrary for a moment, was that a reaſon why Mr Fox ſhould, from day to day, advertiſe and publiſh himſelf as the only advocate for the people of England. With regard to Belgium, Mr Dundas ſaid, that to appreciate in ſome meaſure the value of that country ſo far back as the reign of Henry IV. of France—it was held out in a negociation then pending, "That one acre of land in Belgium, was equal in value to any province in France." He, as well as his colleagues, were of the ſame opinion, and therefore the *ſine qua non* of the negociation was, "That the King of Great Britain could never ſee the Netherlands in the hands of the French."

The Emperor's troops may poſſibly be as ſucceſsful in the two firſt months of the next campaign, as they were in the laſt two months of the laſt campaign—in that event, aided by the force of the Britiſh and other allies—it is not improbable that ſome part of the territory now to be exchanged, may be reclaimed by the original poſſeſſors—at all events it cannot be regarded as a deſperate meaſure—and why tack ſuch an amendment, and lay ſuch a ſtreſs upon it, to ſuch an addreſs. The addreſs could not be more ſimple; it pledges nothing, but merely leaving the negociation in the hands of the executive government, who, he humbly conceived, were the propereſt perſons to be entruſted with it. As to the point of ſincerity, which he muſt again mention, did the French, in any period of the buſineſs, come forward to negociate, and were refuſed by us.—*No*—the contrary is the truth. We have regularly uſed every means from the Note of Mr Wickham at Baſle, to the late miſſion of Lord Malmeſbury, to bring about ſo deſirable an event, but without ſucceſs. There is a pertinacity about the preſent French government, that precludes, except in appearance only, all overtures for a peace, which it is conceived they do not at this time wiſh for, by the obſtructions they put in the way of its completion.

He concluded, by ſolemnly calling upon the Houſe, if they conceived adminiſtration had acted with that duplicity and inſincerity with which they were charged, to paſs a vote of cenſure upon them, and inflict a heavy puniſhment; but let it be unmixed with any other matter.

*Mr Grey* apologized for the very late hour at which he roſe, but there were ſome aſſertions that fell from the laſt ſpeaker, that he could not, conſiſtent with his duty as a member of that houſe, reſiſt anſwering. He ſeverely animadverted on Mr Dundas charging his right hon. friend with having for twelve years paſt *advertiſed* himſelf in that Houſe as the only man fit to guide the helm of ſtate in this country; and paid Mr Fox ſome very high compliments as to his diſintereſtedneſs in his political character, &c. and hoped he ſhould one day ſee him poſſeſſing that ſituation, which the preſent holder of it had manifeſted his inability and imbecility to maintain.

The Houſe divided, when there appeared for the amendment,

Ayes 37 Noes 211

The original motion was then put, and carried without a diviſion.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Dec. 30. *Lord Grenville* moved, that his Majeſty's meſſage to the Houſe ſhould be read—it was accordingly read, (nearly the ſame as in p. 53.)

*Earl Guildford* obſerved, that there was one paper very requiſite to the elucidation of the ſubject on which their Lordſhips were going to debate, which was not on the table; he meant the inſtructions given to Lord Malmeſbury, and he thought it would be highly improper to go into the buſineſs until that document was produced.

*Lord Grenville* gave his decided negative to ſuch a propoſition, as a matter wholly unrequiſite on the preſent occaſion; the matter here dropped.

*Lord Grenville* then entered into a long diſſertation on the late negociation between Lord Malmeſbury and M. De La Croix, in which he condemned the conduct of the Directory in very ſtrong terms, inſiſting that they had not the ſmalleſt intentions of making peace, and that their demand of an *ultimatum* at the *commencement* of a negociation, was a very ſtrong proof of that fact. The noble Lord then went over all the correſpondence, remarking that the French Directory, knowing the preſervation of the balance of power depended on the Netherlands being in poſſeſſion of a continental power, they made the holding in their hands that territory as the *ſine qua*

*qua non* of peace. This it was impoſſible to grant, unleſs we meant to throw ourſelves at the feet of France, and permit that inſulting foe not only to dictate to us, but to every other power in Europe. His Lordſhip ſpoke for a conſiderable length of time, and concluded with moving an addreſs to his Majeſty, which addreſs was the echo of the meſſage from the King.

*Earl Guildford* replied, and boldly aſſerted that Miniſters never had any ſerious intentions of peace; and that the queſtion now was, whether this Country ſhould or ſhould not fight for the reſtoration of the Netherlands to the Emperor? His Lordſhip inſiſted that what we offered to France was not, nor could ſeriouſly be deemed, an equivalent to the enemy for the reſtoration of all his conqueſts. The *ſtatu quo ante bellum*, it was well underſtood, would never be agreed to, and therefore our embaſſy was a fruitleſs one. Miniſters knew that France would not give up the Netherlands, and yet that point was the *ultimatum* with which Lord Malmeſbury was charged: His Lordſhip, therefore, moved an amendment, which conveyed a pointed cenſure on his Majeſty's Miniſters, charging them as the authors of all the calamities which attended this unfortunate war.

*Lord Liverpool* replied, and defended the conduct of Adminiſtration.

*Lord Derby* made a ſpirited reply, on the ſame ground as Lord Guildford took. He ſaid the War was the ruin of the Country, and that in Birmingham, at this preſent time, out of 6000 houſes there were 4000 untenanted.

*Lord Aukland* denied this poſition, as war was always beneficial to the manufactures of Birmingham.

*Earl Fitzwilliam* contended, that this country ſhould never make peace with France until a King was placed on the throne there, and religion and morality were reſtored. Theſe were his ſentiments four years ago, and he ſaw no occaſion to alter them.

*The Lord Chancellor* made a long ſpeech, in which he contended that this country was in a flouriſhing ſtate. He ſaid there were, in this year, only 800 bankrupts; and that was conſiderably leſs than what happened, on an average, for the laſt twelve years.

At length the queſtion was put on Lord Guildford's amendment; when there appeared, for it,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Contents, - - | 7 | |
| Proxies - - | 1 | |
| | | — 8 |
| Non Contents, - | 63 | |
| Proxies, - - | 23 | —86 |
| Majority - - | | 78 |

*Earl Fitzwilliam* then moved a long addreſs to his Majeſty, for a continuance of the war on theſe principles which firſt actuated his Lordſhip at the commencement of it. This motion was negatived without a diviſion.

*The Duke of Bedford* then gave notice of his intention to move an addreſs to his Majeſty, to remove from his Councils the preſent Miniſters, and that the Houſe ſhould be ſummoned for Monday ſe'nnight. This motion was negatived without a diviſion, and then their Lordſhips adjourned to the 14th of February.

# MONTHLY REGISTER.

## GAZETTE INTELLIGENCE.

### WEST INDIES.

*Parliament-Street, Jan.* 16.

Diſpatches, of which the following are an extract and copy, have been received by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, from Maj.-Gen. Charles Graham, commanding his Majeſty's troops in the Leeward iſlands, in the abſence of Lieut. General Sir Ralph Abercrombie, K. B.

*Oct.* 16. 1796.

Our affairs in Grenada wear the moſt favourable aſpect: I may ſay, indeed, tranquillity is completely reſtored, as they enjoy it in the moſt comprehenſive ſenſe: The communication throughout the iſland is perfectly open; there are ſome few ſtragglers, no doubt, in the woods, but they never moleſt even ſingle paſſengers, and their number is ſo inconſiderable, and their ſtate ſo wretched, that they rather deſerve our contempt than merit our reſentment. Fedon has not yet been taken, and opinions are various with reſpect to his death or eſcape, the former, however, I think moſt probable, as it is reported a canoe, that had been overſet, was found

found by a veſſel ſome diſtance from the coaſt, with a compaſs nailed to the bottom, which was known to be one that he had had in his poſſeſſion; it is therefore likely he may have been loſt, in endeavouring to make his eſcape.

I embrace with ſatisfaction the opportunity this affords me of having the honour to inform you, that a negociation has been opened for a general exchange of priſoners, with the commiſſioners of the French republic at Guadaloupe; the commiſſary ſent here to treat on that buſineſs has in conſequence returned with two hundred, an equal number of our's are to be ſent by the cartel; when the buſineſs is finally ſettled, I ſhall have the pleaſure of acquainting you with the particulars.

*Head-quarters, Martinico, Nov.* 13.

SIR, It affords me great ſatisfaction to have an opportunity of informing you of the entire reduction of the Brigands and Charibs in St Vincent's, which was communicated to me by Major General Hunter ſhortly after I had the honour of addreſſing you on the 16th ultimo; a copy of whoſe letter I herewith tranſmit, together with the return of killed and wounded. I have the honour to be, &c. CHARLES GRAHAM, Maj. Gen.

*St Vincents, Oct.* 18.

SIR, When I had the honour of writing to your Excellency on the 22d of Auguſt, I incloſed a copy of the terms offered to the Charibs by Governor Seton and myſelf, in conſequence of Sir Ralph Abercromby's orders and inſtructions to me upon that ſubject. At the ſame time I acquainted you with the plan I had adopted in order to reduce the remaining Brigands, and to compel the Charibs to ſurrender.

I have now the ſatisfaction to inform you of the total reduction of the Brigands and Charibs on this iſland.

Marin Padre (a negroe of St Lucia) who has commanded the Brigands and Charibs ſince the capture of the Vigie, and who had great influence and authority over both, ſurrendered on the 2d inſt.

The number of Brigands who have ſurrendered, or been taken ſince the 4th of July, amounts to 725; the number of Charibs to 4633, including women and children.

I have much pleaſure in making known to you, for his Majeſty's information, the zeal, activity, and humanity which have actuated every deſcription of officers and ſoldiers employed under my command during the whole of the Charib war; and I am happy to ſay, that, notwithſtanding the ſeaſon of the year, and the fatigue the troops have undergone, they are in general very healthy.

Incloſed you will receive a return of the killed and wounded of his Majeſty's troops ſince the commencement of the Charib war. I have the honour to be, &c. P. HUNTER, Maj. Gen.

*To his Excellency Maj. Gen. Graham.*

*Return of the Killed and Wounded of His Majeſty's forces in the iſland of St Vincent's, between the 20th of July and 15th of October* 1796.

Total.—2 ſerjeants, 31 rank and file killed; 1 Lieutenant Colonel, 4 Lieutenants, 1 Enſign, 12 ſerjeants, 1 gunner, 66 rank and file wounded.

*Officers Wounded.*

Lieut. Col. Graham and Enſign Towes of the 2d Weſt India regt.; Lieut. Millar of the 40th regt.; Lieuts. Beaufre and Roquier, of Lowendeln's chaſſeurs; Lieut. M'Kenzie, of Lieut. Col. Huffey's St Vincent's rangers. (Signed)

W. J. CURREY, Aide-de-Camp.

*Whitehall, Jan.* 16.

A letter, of which the following is an extract, has been received from Governor Seton, by his Grace the Duke of Portland, dated St Vincent's, October 12. 1796.

I have the ſatisfaction to inform your Grace, that tranquillity is on the eve of being reſtored to this colony, owing, in a great meaſure, to the unremitting exertions of Major General Hunter, and to his humane conduct towards the enemy of every deſcription. All the Charib chiefs have ſurrendered, their people are coming in daily, and we have at this moment about three thouſand five hundred in our poſſeſſion. Nearly all the Brigands, with their leader, have alſo ſurrendered.

By a ſubſequent letter from the Governor to his Grace, dated St Vincent's the 16th of November laſt, it appears, that the remainder of the Charibs and Brigands had ſurrendered themſelves, and that the iſland was in a ſtate of perfect ſecurity.

IRELAND.

*Whitehall, Jan.* 3.

By diſpatches received on Saturday evening from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland by his Grace the Duke of Portland,

land, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, it appears that a part of the French fleet, consisting of eight two-deckers, and nine other vessels of different classes, had anchored in Bantry Bay on the 24th ult. and had remained there, without any attempt to land, till the 27th in the evening, when they quitted their station, and have not since been heard of. The wind, at the time of their sailing, blowing hard at S. S. E.

From their first appearance, every exertion was made by General Dalrymple, the Commanding Officer of the district; and a considerable force was collected to repel the enemy.

The accounts further state, that the yeomanry and volunteer corps displayed the utmost zeal and alacrity, in undertaking the guards in those places from whence the regular troops were withdrawn; and the unanimity manifested by all descriptions of people to forward [illegible] left no room to doubt, in the event, to make the enemy find cause to repent their descent. In particular, the public spirit, and exertions of Richard White, Esq. of Sorbell Park, deserve the most honourable mention.

An officer and seven men were driven on shore in a boat belonging to one of the French ships, and were immediately made prisoners. This gentleman was conveyed to Dublin, and, upon examination, states that the fleet, upon its leaving Brest, consisted in all of about fifty sail, having an army of 26,000 men on board, commanded by General Hoche, and that it was destined for the attack of Ireland.

*Whitehall, Jan. 7.*

By dispatches received this day by his Grace the Duke of Portland, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Mr Pelham, dated the 3d and 4th instant, it appears that a part of the French fleet had returned to Bantry Bay, and that a further part had been seen off the mouth of the Shannon; but that both divisions had quitted their stations, and put to sea, on the evening of the 2d instant, without attempting a landing.

The account of the disposition of the country, where the troops are assembled, are as favourable as possible; and the greatest loyalty has manifested itself throughout the kingdom; and in the south and west, where the troops have been in motion, they have been met by the country people of all descriptions, with provisions, and all sorts of accommodations, to facilitate their march; and every demonstration has been given of the zeal and ardour of the nation to oppose the enemy in every place where it could be supposed a descent might be attempted.

*Whitehall, Jan. 10.*

By dispatches received this day by his Grace the Duke of Portland, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, dated the 6th instant, it appears that his Excellency had received accounts from Vice-Admiral Kingsmill, stating, that on the 5th instant, his Majesty's ship the Polyphemus, Captain Lumsdaine, had captured and brought into the Cove of Cork, La Tortue, a French frigate of 44 guns, and 625 men, including troops; and that she had also captured a large transport, full of troops, which being extremely leaky, and night coming on, with heavy gales of wind, Captain Lumsdaine had been prevented from taking possession of, but which, from many signals of distress afterwards made by her, and his inability to render any assistance, he had every reason to apprehend must have sunk during the night.

It further appears from the accounts of the prisoners on board La Tortue, that La Seawola, another large French frigate, had recently foundered at sea, with all her crew.

*Whitehall, Jan. 17.*

Extract of a Letter from his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to his Grace the Duke of Portland, dated Dublin Castle, January 10. 1797.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Grace, that since the information transmitted to Mr Grenville, that the French fleet had entirely left Bantry Bay, there has been no re-appearance of them upon the coasts; so that I trust, from the violence of the tempest, and from their ships being ill found and ill victualled, their expedition is for the present frustrated.

Upon reviewing what has passed during this expedition of the enemy, I have the satisfaction to reflect, that the best spirit was manifested by his Majesty's regular and militia forces; and I have every reason to believe, that if a landing had

had taken place, they would have diſplayed the utmoſt fidelity. When the flank companies of the Antrim regiment were formed, the whole regiment turned out, to a man, with expreſſions of the greateſt eagerneſs to march; and the Downſhire regiment, to a man, declared they would ſtand and fall by their officers.

At the time the army was ordered to march, the weather was extremely ſevere: I therefore ordered them a proportion of ſpirits upon their route, and directed an allowance of fourpence a-day to their wives until their return. During their march, the utmoſt attention was paid them by the inhabitants of the towns and villages through which they paſſed; ſo that in many places the meat provided by the commiſſariot was not conſumed. The roads, which in parts had been rendered impaſſable by the ſnow, were cleared by the peaſantry. The poor people often ſhared their potatoes with them, and dreſſed their meat without demanding payment; of which there was a very particular inſtance in the town of Banagher, where no gentleman or principal farmer reſides to ſet them the example. At Carlow a conſiderable ſubſcription was made for the troops as they paſſed; and at Limerick and Cork every exertion was uſed to facilitate the carriage of artillery and baggage, by premiums to carmen; and in the town of Galway, which, for a ſhort time, was left with a very inadequate garriſon, the zeal and ardour of the inhabitants and yeomanry was peculiarly manifeſted, and in a manner to give me the utmoſt ſatisfaction. In ſhort, the general good diſpoſition of the people through the ſouth and weſt was ſo prevalent, that had the enemy landed, their hope of aſſiſtance from the inhabitants would have been totally diſappointed.

From the armed yeomanry, Government derived the moſt honourable aſſiſtance. Noblemen and gentlemen of the firſt property vied in exerting themſelves at the head of their corps. Much of the expreſs and eſcort duty was performed by them. In Cork, Limerick, and Galway they took the duty of the garriſon. Lord Shannon informs me, that men of three and four thouſand pounds a-year were employed in eſcorting baggage, and carrying expreſſes. Mr John Latouche, who was a private in his ſon's corps, rode twenty-five miles in one of the ſevereſt nights, with an expreſs, it being his turn for duty. The merchants of Dublin, many of them of the firſt eminence, marched ſixteen Iriſh miles with a convoy of arms to the north, whither it was conducted by reliefs of yeomanry. The appearance in this metropolis has been highly meritorious. The corps have been formed of the moſt reſpectable barriſters, attorneys, merchants, gentlemen, and citizens, and their number is ſo conſiderable, and their zeal in mounting guard ſo uſeful, that I was enabled greatly to reduce the garriſon with perfect ſafety to the town. The numbers of yeomanry fully appointed and diſciplined in Dublin, exceed two thouſand, above four hundred of whom are horſe. The whole number of corps approved by Goverment, amount to four hundred and forty, excluſive of the Dublin corps. The groſs number is nearly twenty-five thouſand. There are alſo ninety-one offers of ſervice under conſideration, and one hundred and twenty-five propoſals have been declined; and, in reply to a circular letter written to the commandants of the reſpective corps, their anſwers almoſt univerſally contained a general offer of ſervice in any part of the kingdom.

Many prominent examples of individual loyalty and ſpirit have appeared. An uſeful impreſſion was made upon the minds of the Catholics by a judicious addreſs from Dr Moylan, the titular Biſhop of Cork. I cannot but take notice of the exertions of Lord Kenmare, who ſpared no expence in giving aſſiſtance to the Commanding Officer in his neighbourhood, and who took into his own demeſne a great quantity of cattle which had been driven from the coaſt. Nor could any thing exceed the ardour of the Earl of Ormond, who when his regiment of militia was retained as part of the garriſon of Dublin, ſolicited with ſo much zeal a command in the flank companies, that I thought it a meaſure due to his Majeſty's ſervice to encourage his Lordſhip's requeſt.

NAVAL.

*Admiralty-Office, Jan. 7.*

Copy of a letter from Capt. William Carthew, Commander of his Majeſty's ſhip Regulus, to Mr Nepean, &c.

I beg leave to acquaint you, that on Wedneſday the 2d of Novemer, at one P.M. a ſail was diſcovered. At ten P.M. came within hale; and as ſhe would not

heave to, or ſay of what nation ſhe was, a broadſide was given, upon which ſhe ſtruck, and proved to be the San Pio, Spaniſh corvette, of 18 guns and 140 men. Having the day before received intelligence that Admiral Man's ſquadron had been chaced by the Spaniſh fleet, and alſo that they had taken an hoſpital ſhip from us, I deemed it juſtifiable to detain her. W. CARTHEW.

*Admiralty-Office, Jan.* 20.

Copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Hervey to Mr Nepean, dated Prince of Wales, Fort Royal Bay, Martinique, Dec. 4. 1796.

You will pleaſe to acquaint their Lordſhips, that a few hours after I anchored with the ſquadron, on the 2d inſt. I received a letter from Captain Barton, of his Majeſty's ſhip Lapwing, acquainting me that he had deſtroyed the French ſhip Le Decius, and La Vaillante brig, off St Martin's, and that two French frigates, La Thetis and La Penſee, were at anchor off St Martin's, referring me to Lieut. St Clair for further information.

Captain Barton having referred me to Lieutenant St Clair, whom he detatched in a Dutch ſchooner with his letter, it appears that the French had landed about three or four hundred men on the iſland of Anguilla, the 26th ultimo, and that, after having plundered the iſland, and burnt ſeveral houſes, had committed every devaſtation poſſible, attended with acts of great cruelty; that on the appearance of the Lapwing they re-embarked their troops the night of the 26th, and the following morning early the Lapwing came to action with the Decius of twenty-ſix guns, and Vaillant brig, mounting four thirty-two and twenty-four pounders, as a gun geſſel; that after a cloſe action of about an hour the brig bore away, and in half an hour after the Decius ſtruck her colours. The brig ran on ſhore on St Martin's, and by the fire of the Lapwing was deſtroyed; that on the Lapwing taking poſſeſſion of the Decius, it was found ſhe had about eighty men killed, and forty wounded, being full of troops; that the following day the Lapwing was chaced by two large French frigates, and Captain Barton found it neceſſary to take the priſoners and his men out of the Decius, and ſet fire to her, when he returned to St Kitt's, and landed 170 priſoners.

It evidently appears that Captain Barton's conduct was highly meritorious by the capture and deſtruction of this force of the enemy, and ſaving the iſland of Anguilla from further depredation.

The French troops employed on this ſervice were picked men from Guadaloupe; and there is great reaſon to ſuppoſe the greateſt part of them have been taken or deſtroyed. Many of the ſoldiers were drowned in attempting to ſwim on ſhore.

The Lapwing had but one man killed (the pilot) and ſix men wounded. I am, &c. H. HERVEY.

Extract of a letter from Vice-Admiral Kingſmill, Commander in Chief of his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels at Cork, to Mr Nepean, dated on board the Polyphemus, January 13.

Pleaſe to inform my Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, that his Majeſty's ſhip Druid is arrived as Kinſale, detached from the Unicorn and Doris, with a large French ſhip, armed en flute, captured by them, named La Ville de L'Orient, having on board four hundred of the enemy's huſſars, completely equipped, beſides ſome mortars, cannon, muſquets, powder, cloathing, &c. being one of the ſhips on the expedition againſt this country.

Copy of a letter from Captain Barlow, Commander of his Majeſty's ſhip Phœbe, to Evan Nepean, Eſq; Secretary of the Admiralty, dated Cawſand, Jan. 13.

SIR,

I have to acquaint you, for their Lordſhips information, that on the 10th inſt. his Majeſty's ſhip, under my command fell in with, and captured the French corvette L'Atalante, of ſixteen guns, manned with one hundred and twelve men, commanded by Lieutenant Dordelin. The Atalante is a very fine brig, coppered, having eighty feet keel, and is only three years old.

*Admiralty-Office, Jan.* 21.

Extract of a letter from Sir Edward Pellew, Bart. Captain of his Majeſty's frigate Indefatigable, to Evan Nepean, Eſq; dated Jan. 17.

I have the honour to make known to you, for the information of the Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, that on Friday laſt the 13th inſt. at half paſt noon, in lat. 47 deg. 30 min. N. Uſhant bearing N. E. 50 leagues, we diſcovered a large ſhip in the N. W. quarter, ſteering under eaſy ſail for France; the wind

was

was then at weſt, blowing hard, with thick, hazy weather. I inſtantly made the ſignal to the Amazon for a general chace, and followed it by the ſignal, that the chace was an enemy.

At fifteen minutes before ſix we brought the enemy to cloſe action, which continued to be well ſupported on both ſides near an hour, when we unavoidably ſhot a-head; at this moment the Amazon appeared a-ſtern, and gallantly ſupplied our place; but the eagerneſs of Capt. Reynolds to ſecond his friend, had brought him up under a preſs of ſail, and after a well ſupported and cloſe fire for a little time, he alſo unavoidably ſhot a-head. The enemy, I believe, was full of men.

As ſoon as we had replaced ſome neceſſary rigging, and the Amazon had reduced her ſail, we commenced a ſecond attack, placing ourſelves, after ſome raking broadſides, upon each quarter; and this attack, often within piſtol ſhot, was by both ſhips unremitted for above five hours. We then ſheered off to ſecure our maſts. It would be needleſs to relate to their Lordſhips every effort that we made in an attack, which commenced at a quarter before ſix P. M. and did not ceaſe, excepting at intervals, until half paſt four A. M. I believe ten hours of more ſevere fatigue was ſcarcely ever experienced; the ſea was high; the people on the main deck up to their middles in water; ſome guns broke their breechings four times over; ſome drew the ring-bolts from the ſides, and many of them were repeatedly drawn immediately after loading; all our maſts were much wounded, the main top-maſt completely unrigged, and ſaved only by uncommon alacrity.

The lingering approach of day-light was moſt anxiouſly looked for by all, and ſoon after it opened, ſeeing the land very cloſe a-head, we again wore to the ſouthward, in twenty fathoms water, and a few minutes after diſcovered the enemy, who had ſo bravely defended herſelf, lying on her broad-ſide, and a tremendous ſurf beating over her. The miſerable fate of her brave but unhappy crew was perhaps the more ſincerely lamented by us, from the apprehenſion of ſuffering a ſimilar misfortune. We paſſed her within a mile, in a very bad condition, having at that time four feet water in our hold, a great ſea, and the wind dead on the ſhore; but we had aſcertained, beyond a doubt, our ſituation to be that of Hodierne Bay, and that our fate depended upon the poſſible chance of weathering the Penmark rocks. Exhauſted as we were with fatigue, every exertion was made, and every inch of canvas ſet that could be carried, and at eleven A. M. we made the breakers, and, by the bleſſing of God, weathered the Penmark rocks about half a mile.

The Amazon had hauled her wind to the northward, when we ſtood to the ſouthward; her condition I think was better than ours, and I knew that her activity and exertions were fully equal to any thing that could be effected under ſimilar circumſtances; the judgment with which ſhe was managed during ſo long an action, and the gallantry of her attacks, could not but merit the higheſt commendation, and to the heart of a friend it was peculiarly gratifying. I have full as much reaſon to ſpeak highly of my officers and men, to whom I owe infinite obligations. The Lieutenants Thomſon, Norway, and Bell, Lieutenants O'Connor and Wilſon, of the marines, and Mr Thomſon the maſter, have abundant claims upon my gratitude, as well as every inferior officer in the ſhip. The ſufferings of the Amazon are unknown to me; and I am ſingularly happy to ſay, that my own are inconſiderable. The Firſt Lieutenant, Mr Thomſon, a brave and worthy officer, is the only one of that deſcription wounded, with eighteen men; twelve of which number have wounds of no ſerious conſequence, conſiſting chiefly of violent contuſions from ſplinters. I am, &c.

ED. PELLEW.

*Captures, &c. from the Gazette.*

Dec. 29. A French cutter privateer, of 4 guns, and 30 men, by his Majeſty's ſhip Cerberus.

30. The Impatiente, French frigate, of 40 guns, and 570 ſailors and ſoldiers on board, came on ſhore near Crookhaven, and was totally loſt, only ſeven men ſaved.

L'Hirondelle, French privateer, of 12 guns, 70 men, by the Cleopatra frigate.

Jan. 1. L'Amaranthe, of 12 guns, French national brig, by the Diamond frigate.

2. La Muſette, French privateer, of 22 guns, and 150 men, by the Hazard ſloop.

Le Deux Amis, French privateer, of 14 guns, and 80 men, by his Majeſty's ſhips Polyphemus and Doris.

8. Le Suffrein, armed en flute, formerly taken by the Jaſon frigate, but retaken by the French, taken again, and ſunk, by a ſquadron of Britiſh ſhips.

10. L'Eclair, of 18 guns, and 120 men, by the Unicorn frigate, Sir T. Williams.

12. A French privateer, of 2 guns, and 28 men, by his Majeſty's ſloop Star, the Hon. Capt. Colvill.

13. La Favorite privateer, of 8 guns, and 60 men, by his Majeſty's ſhip Hind.

17. L'Allerger brig, of 200 tons, laden with ammunition and entrenching tools, one of the veſſels on the Iriſh expedition, by his Majeſty's ſloop Spitfire.

(*End of the Gazettes.*)

## CONTINENTAL INTELLIGENCE.

### GERMANY.

Jan. 10. This day the fortreſs of Kehl ſurrendered to the Auſtrian army.

The French General Rudler writes, "By the capitulation agreed upon yeſterday, the Fort of Kehl, after the trenches had been opened before it two months, will be reſtored to the Auſtrians this day, at four o'clock in the afternoon; all our artillery has already been formed into a park on the left bank of the Rhine. Every ſoldier carries with him only the paliſade which covered him; the enemy will find nothing but aſhes and ruins.

"It is thus that the army, after the paſſage of the Rhine, after rapid conqueſts, and one of the moſt ſkilful retreats, has crowned its brilliant campaign by a defence equally aſtoniſhing and glorious.

"The Generals, the Officers, and Soldiers, have diſplayed in that ſituation a courage and a fortitude that even compelled the enemy to pay them the tribute of admiration which is due to their valour. RUDLER."

On the 14th, General Clarke arrived at Vienna; but on the arrival of the accounts of Lord Malmeſbury being ordered to quit Paris, that General got immediate orders to leave Vienna: ſo all negociations for a peace were broken off.

### ITALY.

The Pope has been greatly alarmed by the threats of the French, whoſe terms of Peace have been ſo greatly mortifying, that his Holineſs refuſed to ratify them. The Archbiſhop of Ferrara has tranſmitted to his Holineſs a bombaſtic letter he received from the French General, the concluding paragraph of which is as follows: "To overturn the temporal power of the Pope, I have no more to do than to will it. Repair to Rome, ſee the Holy Father, undeceive him reſpecting his true intereſts, deliver him from the intriguers that ſurround him, who wiſh for his deſtruction, and that of the city of Rome. The French once more permit me to offer propoſitions of peace. All may yet be ſettled. War, ſo cruel on the people, has terrible conſequences for the vanquiſhed. Save the Pope from the greateſt misfortunes. You know how deſirous I am to terminate by peace, a conteſt, which has, for me, neither danger nor glory. "In your miſſion, M. Le Cardinal, I wiſh that ſucceſs which the purity of your intention deſerves. BUONAPARTE."

Dec. 17. Field Marſhall Baron Davidovitch writes from Rivoli, "That he had, on the morning of the 17th, attacked the enemy, who were ſtrongly poſted on the heights near Rivoli, and notwithſtanding the difficulties of the ſituation from mountains and precipices, after an obſtinate conteſt, which continued, without intermiſſion, from ſeven in the morning till two in the afternoon, we drove the enemy to the heights of Campara. Their loſs in killed and wounded was conſiderable. Two Generals, Florella and Vallet, were made priſoners, with a great number of officers, and 1000 private men. We likewiſe took 12 pieces of artillery, and ſeveral ammunition waggons."

29. General Wurmſer made a ſucceſsful *ſortie* from Mantua, and killed near 4000 of the enemy.

Nothing deciſive can as yet be ſtated about the army in Italy, partly on account of the ſeverity of the ſeaſon, and the heavy falls of ſnow in the mountains, and partly on account of the conſiderable reinforcements which the enemy has received from all quarters, by which they were enabled to oppoſe the two advancing corps of Field Marſhal Lieutenant Quoſdannovich and Davidovitch with the greateſt obſtinacy, by their ſuperior numbers, and to fruſtrate the junction of theſe two corps on the Adige, for effecting which, our troops, for ſome time paſt, brought on ſeveral engagements, in which the advantage was now on one ſide, and then on the other, with conſiderable loſſes on both; the amount of

of which, however, has not yet been authenticated. To grant ſome repoſe to our troops, who have greatly ſuffered from cold and fatigue, theſe two corps have at preſent ſtationed themſelves in ſuch a manner (that of Quoſdannovich near Baſſano, and that of Davidovitch near Ala) as to enable the troops to recover themſelves, and at the ſame time to cover the frontiers of Tyrol and Auſtria, and alſo to remain in a ſituation which will enable them to embrace the firſt favourable opportunity which may offer to give relief and ſuccour to the fortreſs of Mantua.

The foreign papers ſtate, that General Buonaparte was at Milan on the 30th November, and had a long conference with General Clarke, who had arrived there from Paris by the way of Turin, and was going as negociator to Vienna.

## RUSSIA.

On the 2d December laſt, the corpſe of Peter III. was brought from Nefsky monaſtery to the Imperial palace, in a proceſſion the moſt grand, awful, and ſolemn, that could poſſibly be witneſſed. The train occupied the whole extent between theſe two places, a ſpace of five verſts, or upwards of three miles. The preſent Emperor as well as Empreſs, the two grand dukes and ducheſſes, with many young ladies, nobility, and gentry, &c. accompanied the proceſſion, which laſted from day-break till paſt two in the afternoon. On the 5th of the ſame month, the funeral ceremony of the remains of Peter III. and the late Catharine II. took place. It was equally grand and numerous with the former, nay, more ſo; but as it paſſed through narrow ſtreets, it could not ſhow quite ſo well. They were interred in the caſtle.

Accounts are received from Peterſburgh, that the Emperor has ſet at liberty the celebrated Poliſh General Koſciuſko, and at the ſame time preſented him with 1500 peaſants. He has alſo reſtored to liberty the two other Poliſh priſoners Potocki and Niemciwitz. The former he has reſtored to his eſtate, and to the latter he has given 1000 peaſants. They have engaged to remain peaceable.

## WEST INDIES.

The lateſt accounts from Major General Gordon Forbes, commanding his Majeſty's troops in the iſland of St Domingo, dated Port-au-Prince, October 9. 1796, import, that our ſituation in St Domingo is by far more favourable at this time than ſince his Majeſty has been in poſſeſſion of any part of it. The ſucceſs of the very judicious arrangements made by Major General Bowyer, at Jeremie, and the diviſions amongſt the enemy in the ſouth part of the iſland, where almoſt all the republican whites have been maſſacred ſince their defeat, has aſſured the ſafety of the important quarter of the Grand Ance.

The ſame ſpirit of diſcord prevailing alſo in the north, and the ſucceſs of our troops towards the Spaniſh frontiers, have encouraged the remains of Jean Francois' army to co-operate with us; they have, in conſequence, fought ſeveral battles with the republican party, and have ſent us a number of priſoners. St Marc's and Mole St Nicolas are alſo in a ſtate of perfect ſecurity.

## AMERICA.

A letter from New York, December 9th, ſays, "About one o'clock this morning a fire broke out in one of the ſtores on Murray's Wharf, Coffee-houſe-ſlip, and raged with ſuch fury as to baffle all human exertion, till it had laid in aſhes the whole block of buildings included between that ſlip, Front-ſtreet, and the Fly-market. The number of buildings conſumed may be from ſixty to ſeventy, conſiſting moſtly of large warehouſes, with ſome large and valuable dwelling-houſes. The goods in the ſtores firſt burnt were all conſumed, with all the books and papers of the occupiers. Of this number are Meſſ. Robinſon and Hartſhorne, Meſſ. Loomis and Tillinghaſt, W. and S. Robinſon, and the repreſentatives of Nicholas Cook. The merchandize in the ſtores nearer to the Fly-market was much of it ſaved. Fortunately it was high water, and the wind off ſhore, by which means the ſhipping was ſaved. The principal proprietors of the buildings burnt are, Stewart and Johnes, John Murray, jun. John Marſton, Robert Browne, John Taylor, Garey Ludlow, Robert and Peter Bruce, and Henry H. Kip. It would be imprudent at preſent to hazard a gueſs at the amount of property deſtroyed. It muſt be immenſe. The warehouſes were all of wood, and many of them contained large quantities of rum and ſpirits, which rendered the flames terrible in rapidity and extent."

On

On the 14th it was ſaid, that the houſe of Mr Lewis Ogden, in Pearl-ſtreet, has been twice ſet on fire—the evidence of malicious intention is indubitable, and he has ſent his black man, ſuſpected, to priſon. Laſt night an attempt was made to ſet fire to Mr Lindſey's houſe, in Greenwich-ſtreet. The combuſtibles, left for the purpoſe, are preſerved as evidence of the fact. Another attempt, was made laſt night in Beckman-ſtreet. A bed was ſet on fire under a child, and his cries alarmed the family.

A letter from a gentleman in Savannah, in Georgia, of Nov. 29. has the following paragraph: On Saturday the 26th inſt. this city exhibited a ſcene of deſolation and diſtreſs, probably more awfully calamitous than any previouſly experienced in America. Between ſix and ſeven o'clock in the evening a ſmall bake-houſe, belong to a Mr Gromet, in Market ſquare, was diſcovered to be on fire. The citizens, together with the officers and crews of the veſſels in the harbour, were ſoon convened; but, unfortunately, no immediate and deciſive meaſures were adopted by which the fire could be ſtopped in its beginning. We can now only ſay, that two thirds of the city appear in ruins, in a direction from the corner of Market-ſquare, along the Bay of Abercorn-ſtreet, thence in a ſouth-eaſt direction, taking the whole centre of the city to the ſouth and eaſt commons; a few houſes quite in the ſouth-eaſt only excepted.

About the beginning of December the election of a Chaplain to the Houſe of Aſſembly at New York took place. There were three candidates, for whom, at the final cloſe of the poll, the numbers were as follow:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rev. Dr Green | - | 35 |
| Dr Prieſtley | - | 27 |
| Mr Blair | - | 6 |

Whereupon Dr Green was declared duly elected.

*Philadelphia, Dec.* 24.—Mr Adams and Mr Pinckney were elected Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States, an official notification of which was to be made on the 10th January, by the Preſident of the Senate, to both Houſes of Congreſs. Both theſe gentlemen are conſidered as well diſpoſed towards Great Britain. Mr Jefferſon one of the unſucceſsful candidates, was ſuppoſed to be friendly to the intereſts of France.

## LONDON.

Jan. 3. Lord Bridport, ſailed from Portſmouth, with a fleet of 17 ſail of the line, beſides frigates, on a cruize.

The liſt of the navy, which was laid before the King by the Preſident of the Admiralty Board, makes the number of ſhips of war of the Britiſh navy in commiſſion, at the commencement of the year 1797, to be 503,—viz. of the line, from 64 to 112 guns, 124; of 50 guns, 17; large frigates, from 44 to 32 guns, 87; ſmall frigates, 84; ſloops, brigs, cutters, &c. 196.

On the 3d Jan. Stonehenge, an object of the firſt curioſity to the antiquary, and naturaliſt, underwent a great change, by the falling of ſome of thoſe ſtupendous ſtones which form this wonderful relique of Druidical ſuperſtition. The accounts received from perſons on the ſpot, is as follows: "In conſequence of the rapid thaw ſucceeding a very ſevere froſt, the weather being perfectly calm, one of the trilithons in the inner circle of Stonehenge, which were ſo called by Dr Stukely from their being formed of three ſtones, (an impoſt reſting upon two upright ſtones,) ſuddenly inclined and fell. It had long deviated from its true perpendicular. There were originally five of theſe trilithons, two of which are, even now, ſtill remaining in their ancient ſtate. It is remarkable, that no account has ever been recorded of the falling of the others, and, perhaps, no alteration has been made in the appearance of Stonehenge for three centuries prior to the preſent tremendous downfall. The impoſt, which is the ſmalleſt of the three ſtones, is ſuppoſed to weigh 20 tons. They all now lie proſtrate on the ground, and have received no injury from their aerial ſeparation."

Jan. 5. A forgery has been attempted on the bank of England. Three 40l. bank-notes were offered for payment, two of which were paid. On preſenting the third, the forgery was diſcovered. The notes are ſuppoſed to have been introduced into this country by an American veſſel.

Admiral Sir John Jervis, with the fleet under his command, conſiſting of twelve ſail of the ſail of the line, is arrived at Liſbon. The Courageux, one of this fleet, was driven on ſhore on the coaſt of Spain, between Tariff and Cabrita point.

Point. The Bombay Caſtle got on ſhore going over the bar at the entrance of the Tagus, and was totally loſt.

The Baron de Ruger has received letters from the Prince of Wirtemberg, ſtating, that his Serene Highneſs had ſet out from Stutgard for Hamburg, and is expected to arrive in England the beginning of next month.

The following is given as a liſt of the ſhips compoſing the Breſt fleet, which ſailed thence the 15th ult. under the orders of Admiral Morard de Galles, for a deſcent on Ireland:

*Squadron commanded by* Rear Admiral Bouvet.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Le Neſtor | 74 | La Concorde | 40 |
| Le Caſſard | 74 | La Bravoure | 40 |
| Les Droits de l'Homme (1) | 74 | L'Immortalite | 40 |
| Le Thurville | 74 | La Bellone | 40 |
| L'Eole | 74 | La Mutine | 18 |
| Le Pegaſe | 74 | La Renard | 16 |

*Squadron commanded by* Admiral Morard de Galles.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| L'Indomptable | 80 | La Fraternite | 40 |
| Le Fougueux | 74 | La Romaine | 40 |
| Le Mucius | 74 | La Syrene | 40 |
| Le Redoutable | 74 | La Tortue (2) | 40 |
| Le Patriote | 74 | L'Atlante (3) | 20 |
| La Revolution | 74 | Le Voitgeur | 16 |
| La Coquille | 40 | | |

*Squadron commanded by* Rear-Admiral Nielly.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Le Seduiſant (4) | 74 | L'Impatiente (6) | 40 |
| Le Pluton | 74 | La Reſolue | 40 |
| La Conſtitution | 74 | La Survillante (7) | 40 |
| Le Trajan | 74 | La Charente | 40 |
| Le Wattignies | 74 | L'Affronteur | 16 |
| Le Scevola (5) | *raſe* | Le Vautour | 16 |

*Tranſports, &c.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Le Suffren (8) | La Ville de L'Orient (10) |
| Le Nicomede | L'Allegre (11) |
| La Juſtine (9) | L'Experiment |
| Le Patriote | Le Lazare Hoche |

(1) Said to be drove aſhore in Hodierne bay, by the Indefatigable and Amazon frigates. (2) Taken by the Polyphemus. (3) Taken by the Phœbe frigate. (4) Loſt coming out of Breſt. (5) Suppoſed to have foundered. (6) Run on the rocks off Bantry Bay, all periſhed but ſeven. (7) Scuttled in Bantry Bay, crew ſaved. (8) Taken by the Jaſon. Retaken by the Tortue. Afterwards taken again by the Majeſtic, and ſunk. (9) Taken by the Polyphemus, afterwards ſunk, and the crew loſt. (10) Taken by the Druid. (11) Taken by the Spitfire.

## DUBLIN.

On the 16th inſt. the Iriſh Parliament met, when a Meſſage was delivered to both Houſes from the Lord Lieutenant, in which he notices the failure of the negociation for peace with France, announces the late appearance of an hoſtile fleet, which had happily been diſperſed by the interpoſition of Providence in their favour,—an interpoſition which, the Meſſage aſſerts, muſt call forth ſentiments of the moſt awful gratitude in the mind of every good ſubject. It mentions the feelings of his Majeſty at the univerſal and energetic ſpirit of loyalty which was ſo generally manifeſted at that criſis throughout the kingdom; and concludes by recommending to Parliament the conſideration of the ſtate of the country, and to provide for the neceſſary and extraordinary expences of the war.

The Lords on the following day, on the motions of Lords Dillon and Roſſmore, voted addreſſes of thanks to his Majeſty and to the Lord Lieutenant.

The Houſe of Commons likewiſe voted an Addreſs to his Majeſty for his gracious communication in the Lord Lieutenant's Meſſage.

Mr Grattan moved, as an amendment, "That this Houſe felt the higheſt confidence in his Majeſty's wiſhes for the reſtoration of peace, and his ſolicitude for the ſafety of this kingdom; but could not implicitly concur, that his Majeſty's Miniſters had been ſerious in their negociations for that object with France; or that the naval force of Great Britain had been exerted on the late alarming occaſion with due vigilance or activity for the protection of this kingdom." Negatived 90 to 7.

The Houſe alſo moved an Addreſs to the Lord Lieutenant, that he will be pleaſed to iſſue a Proclamation appointing a day of ſolemn Thanſgiving to Almighty God, for his ſignal providence in the late deſtruction of the enemy's fleet, and the diſcomfiture of their intended invaſion.

They then voted their thanks to the troops of the line, the militia, and the yeomanry, for their ſpirit, good conduct, and glorious ardour, during the late menaced invaſion.

## EDINBURGH.

Jan. 3. The Royal Edinburgh Volunteers aſſembled in their uniforms at St An-

Andrew's Church, where an excellent diſcourſe was preached by the Rev. Principal Baird, their Chaplain, from Iſaiah, ii. 3. and 4. The Lord Provoſt and the Magiſtrates were preſent in their robes, and the congregation was very reſpectable and genteel.—A very liberal collection, amounting to upwards of 111l. was made for the induſtrious poor and deſtitute ſick.—It being repreſented to the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers remaining aſſembled after divine ſervice, that by the attempts now making from France to land a conſiderable force in Ireland, with a powerful fleet, or ſome other like emergency, it may be deemed expedient by Government to march the regiment which garriſons the Caſtle of Edinburgh to a diſtant part of the country; and it being certified by the laſt returns of the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, that the corps at preſent reckons above 700 effective rank and file—It was unanimouſly reſolved, That it is proper the corps ſhould, on this occaſion, make a tender of their ſervices, and offer (on its being found neceſſary at any time to march out the troops quartered in the garriſon), to take charge of Edinburgh Caſtle, and do ſuch duty as is uſually performed by the regiments ſtationed in that fortreſs, ſo far as it relates to the garriſon itſelf, and guards requiſite for the different parts of the city and ſuburbs of Edinburgh.

The Royal Glaſgow Volunteers, with their uſual ſpirit, have made an offer to the Commander in Chief, of doing the duty of the town, in caſe, in the preſent criſis, it ſhould be found neceſſary to withdraw the regular troops.

The volunteers of Leith, Perth, and Dundee, have made ſimilar offers, and there is not a doubt but every volunteer corps in the kingdom will follow the example.

It is pleaſing to record the attention and care beſtowed upon the young people concerned in our manufactures. New-year's day, was obſerved as a holiday at New Lanark cotton mills. The young folks, being 420 in number, dined together, excepting three confined by ſickneſs. And it was with ſatisfaction recollected, that, ſince the laſt ſimilar meeting in January 1796, there had been only three deaths out of the whole number.

At Cromwell Park cotton works, the anniverſary entertainment was attended by about 400 children from ſix years old and upwards, with their friends. The dreſſes, particularly of the girls, were elegant, and all earned by their own induſtry. At both places the utmoſt care is taken of the morals and religious principles of the children.

A General Meeting of the Royal Highland Society, of Scotland, agreeable to their charter, was held in their Hall, South Bridge Street, on the 10th inſt. Sir James Pringle of Stitchell, Bart. Vice-Preſident in office, in the Chair; and, after a ballot as required by the laws of the Society, 22 Gentlemen were duly admitted Members.

The Meeting thereafter took under conſideration the different articles of buſineſs which had been before their Committee of Directors ſince the General Meeting in June laſt, and were much pleaſed to find that the money voted by the Society laſt year, had been laid out by the Directors in Premiums as uſual, particularly for improving the Breed of Black Cattle, raiſing Green Crops, and encouraging the eſtabliſhment of uſeful Manufactures, and the introduction of the practice of Draining and Watering Grounds, all which was ordered to be publiſhed, and which will be done in due time for the information of the parties concerned.

The Meeting alſo approved of the ſteps taken, and great attention paid by their Committee of Directors, and Sub-Committee ſpecially appointed for conſidering of the proper mode of obtaining relief from the ſervitude of thirlage, bringing forward the Sketch of a Bill to be brought into Parliament for aboliſhing it, on due compenſation being made to the proprietors of mills; a principle unanimouſly approved and admitted at laſt general meeting.

Thurſday morning the 12th, at an early hour, the bakehouſe of George Gilleſpie, Leith, was burnt to the ground, together with the ſtock and utenſils therein, which happily were inſured in the Sun Fire Office.

On the 19th, at ſeven in the morning, the river Clyde, above the celebrated fall of Corra, deſerted its uſual courſe, leaving its bed below, for four hours, almoſt entirely dry. The cotton mills of New Lanark were, of conſequence, ſtopped; and at eleven o'clock, when the waters reſumed their courſe, there was leſs at Mauldſlie Ford, ſome miles below,

low, than what the ſmall rivers the Mouſe and Nethan commonly afford. Although this is the fourth inſtance of the ſame kind in remembrance, and the ſecond ſince the eſtabliſhment of the mills, the cauſe has not been aſcertained. It is, however, ſuppoſed, that the waters have found a ſubterraneous paſſage between the Bonnyton and the Corra linn.

20. This day a very elegant union flag was preſented to the fiſhermen of Newhaven by the Lord Provoſt and Magiſtrates of this city, as a mark of approbation of their late conduct. His Lordſhip made a ſuitable ſpeech to them on the occaſion; after which the flag was conſecrated by the Rev. Dr Johnſton of North Leith. A ſalute of eleven guns was fired by the fiſhermen after the ceremony.

24. A fire broke out in the diſtillery at Lochrin this evening, but was ſoon extinguiſhed, without any material loſs.

A freehold qualification in the county of Edinburgh was ſold by public auction for 760l.

25. This being the day fixed for the execution of James M'Kean, at Glaſgow, vaſt crowds of people came from all parts of the neighbourhood, and even from very diſtant parts of the country, particularly the town of Lanark and its vicinity, to witneſs the awful ceremony. At two o'clock the Magiſtrates attended in the Court-hall, and the unhappy man was brought in, accompanied by the Rev. Alexander Pirie and James Dun, miniſters of the goſpel. Having ſat down with amazing compoſure, and drank a glaſs of wine, the 130th pſalm was ſung by his deſire; after which Mr Pirie prayed with great fervour.—Mackean joined in ſinging the pſalm, and did not ſeem to be in a great degree affected during the prayer, although he was attentive. After prayers by Mr Dun, another pſalm was ſung, and both clergymen urged him, if he had any thing to ſay to the magiſtrates or audience, to mention it. To this he anſwered ſhortly, that he had ſaid every thing which he wiſhed to ſay on that head in his printed narrative. About ten minutes paſt three, he went from the Court-houſe to the ſcaffold, and addreſſing himſelf to the multitude, produced a paper, ſaying, "This is my ſpeech, which I wiſh may be read to the public." It was accordingly, by his deſire, read by one of the town-officers. In it he acknowledged the juſtneſs of his ſentence, and entertained a due ſenſe of the enormity of the crimes for which he was about to ſuffer; that at this moment it was impoſſible to deſcribe the horrors of his mind, when looking forward to his approaching diſſolution. After ſome interval ſpent in converſing with the magiſtrates and other perſons near him, he mounted the drop, and, upon the ſignal of dropping his handkerchief, was launched into eternity. The crowd of ſpectators was immenſe. Every perſon was ſurprized at the compoſure and apparent indifference of the miſerable ſufferer.

Edinburgh is at preſent very full of company. The Queen's Aſſembly on the 18th was well attended. The public entertainments, however, are not over crowded in general. The manager of the theatre has changed the greateſt part of the performers, but perhaps not greatly to advantage. Miſs Gough, we are informed, however, is an actreſs of ſuperior merit, and ranked highly on the Iriſh ſtage; her figure is good, her air graceful, and her deportment pleaſing. Her voice is ſoft and melodious, clear and articulate, well adapted for expreſſing the more turbid paſſions. Upon the whole, ſhe gives much ſatisfaction. The Panorama is much admired as a good painting, by all who have ſeen it. This ſtile of painting was firſt attempted about twelve years ago in this city by Mr Barker, who now exhibits his works in London with ſo much ſucceſs. It ſeems to be allowed by judges, that the preſent, by Dodd, is ſuperior to Barker's as a painting, but the effect produced on the whole not ſo good. Many wonder that the price ſhould be 2s. while in London the admittance is only 1s.

The ſpotted Indian is certainly a great natural curioſity. His faculty of imitating the ſinging of birds is aſtoniſhing.

The powers of Garbut the Ventriloquiſt are truly ſurpriſing; by inhaling his breath, he can ſo modulate his voice ſo as to make the hearers conceive, that the ſound comes from under the floor, from the roof, and ſo on, at his pleaſure.

ADDRESS *to the Farmers of Great Britain and Ireland, with a Plan for the more ſpeedy conveyance of his Majeſty's forces. By the Preſident of the Board of Agriculture.*

FROM the full conviction that the preſent war was not likely to be terminated, without

out an invasion of either, or of both the kingdoms belonging to the Crown of Great Britain, and anxious to assist in defending my Sovereign and my country from the attacks of their enemies, I was induced to offer my services, which his Majesty was graciously pleased to accept of, for the purpose of raising two corps, one for the defence of this island, and the other for that of Ireland; and the late attempt on our sister kingdom, joined to the threatened invasion of our eastern coasts from Dunkirk, sufficiently prove how necessary every precaution was; what bold and detestable designs the French government are capable of entertaining; and how indifferent they are about the lives of those they govern, provided they have the smallest chance of injuring us. If the inclemency of this season, indeed, could not prevent such an attempt, we may thence judge, what may be expected at other periods of the year, more favourable to hostile operations; and as, of all the situations to which a nation can possibly be reduced, that of being conquered by a foreign enemy, plundered by foreign invaders, and subjected to all the horrors of military caprice, rapine, and violence, is the most calamitous, and the most to be avoided, I feel little hesitation, in calling on the Farmers of both islands, to co-operate with the utmost zeal and activity, by every exertion in their power, in resisting and punishing any such attempt.

Among the measures calculated for that purpose, next to that of having considerable numbers of men trained to arms, there is none more essential, than to have the troops which have been already trained, rapidly conveyed from one part of the kingdom to the other. The late events prove the possibility of a landing being effected by an enemy greatly inferior at sea, and how difficult it is to ascertain against what part of either kingdom their efforts may be directed. Hence it becomes essential, not only to have great numbers of men in arms, but also the power of transporting them quickly to any part of the country where their presence may be necessary.

The following plan, which was so rapidly gone into by the farmers of Mid-Lothian, that carts sufficient to convey above 5000 men were subscribed for in three days, is therefore submitted to the consideration of their brother farmers in the two islands.

*Plan for the more speedy conveyance of his Majesty's forces.*

It is proposed, that the farmers in the county or district of ———, join together, in offering to convey his Majesty's forces, their baggage, &c. in carts and waggons, wherever they may be wanted, without putting the public to any expence. This will be attended, besides the saving of expence, with two good effects:—1st, It will occasion less fatigue to our brave soldiers; and, 2dly, They can be more quickly conveyed to the place where their services may be most wanted. Five soldiers, with their baggage and accoutrements, may be conveyed in a single horse cart, and ten in a double horse cart, at the rate of four miles an hour, provided the soldiers take occasionally their turns in walking, which would be for their own advantage, and be less fatiguing to them. Thus two hundred single horse carts, or one hundred double ones, would convey a regiment of one thousand men, at the rate of from forty to eighty miles a day, according to the exigency of the case.

[Follows the terms of the obligation, specifying the number of carts, horses, &c. to be furnished by each.]

Permit me to take the liberty of adding, that it is only by such spirited and voluntary exertions of public zeal, that we can convince our enemies, how little they can expect to make any impression on this country, by their threatened invasions; and how much better they will employ their efforts, in cultivating their own soil, than invading the territories, and disturbing the peaceful occupations of their neighbours.

I trust that the respectable institution, at which I have the honour to preside, will, when it re-assembles at the close of the present recess, approve of this application to you. Backed with their authority, it would have come with infinitely more weight; but, on the present occasion, the importance and possible urgency of the case, requires little argument or authority to support it, and admits of no delay.

With my best wishes for the agricultural prosperity of both islands, I remain, with great truth and regard, your faithful and obedient servant,

*Edin. Jan.* 6. 1797. JOHN SINCLAIR.

---

DURING the greater part of this month, the weather has been very stormy, but there has been little or no frost. It is remarked by farmers, that they never saw the ground in Mid Lothian so dry at this season of the year; of consequence the plowing is in great forwardness. Provisions continue scarce and dear. Best beef and mutton 7d. and 8d. per lb.; veal 6d. and 7d. Occasionally, the Fish-market has been well provided with haddocks and cod. The herrings still continue in the Frith, and of a good quality; 8 and 12 for a penny. Salmon good, 16d. and 18d. per lb.

By

By the Engliſh report for January we are informed that the growing wheats are much improved by the late rains. The early Bean-ſowing is very favourable in the eaſtern counties. Barley-ſowing has commenced in Norfolk, Suffolk, &c. with equal promiſe. The Outlands, throughout the Bedford Level and the whole Fen Countries, are dry, and in fine condition for their firſt feed ſeaſon. The young clovers have very generally loſt plant on the heavy lands in ſeveral diſtricts, ſo that many of them are now ploughing up for ſpring tares; fortunately the winter tares bid fair for a general crop. Turnips, and coleſeeds, which ſtood the weather beſt, begin to rot, from the mildneſs of the weather; ſo that there is much reaſon to apprehend a ſcarcity of ſpring-feed in the ſucceeding month of March.

## LISTS.

### MARRIAGES.

John Leveſon Gower, Eſq; M. P. for Truro, to Miſs Iſabella Maria Broke.

John Joſeph Atherton, Eſq; Major of the 2d regiment of light dragoons, to Miſs Mitford, of Mitford caſtle, Northumberland.

At London, Alexander Mackenzie, Eſq; of Berners ſtreet, to Miſs Piper of Colyton houſe.

Jan. 7. At London, James Colquhoun, Eſq; of South Street, Finſbury, merchant, to Miſs Colquhoun, daughter of the late Provoſt Colquhoun of Dumbarton.

16. At Lainſhaw, Mr John Hallane, writer, Edinburgh, to Miſs Elizabeth Cunningham, daughter of William Cunningham, Eſq; of Lainſhaw.

19. At Edinburgh, William Forbes, Eſq; eldeſt ſon of Sir William Forbes, Bart. of Pitſligo, to Miſs Belſches, daughter of Sir John Wiſhart Belſches of Fettercairn.

24. At Whitby, Capt. Lyons, of the Dumfries cavalry, to Miſs Coverdale, daughter of Norton Coverdale, Eſq; merchant in London.

27. The Rev. Alexander Thomſon, miniſter of the goſpel at Lentrathan, to Miſs Eliza Thomſon, reſiding at Ballentyne houſe.

28. At Bath, W. Johnſton, Eſq; to Miſs Gladſtanes, daughter of Colonel Gladſtanes, late of the Royal Manchester Volunteers.

### BIRTHS.

Jan. 1. Lady Deerhurſt, a ſon.

9. Mrs Marſhall of Hilcairney, a ſon.

— Lady Galway, a ſon.

11. Mrs Menzies of Culdaires, a ſon.

12. Mrs Campbell of Fairfield, a daughter.

22. Mrs Graham of Meikleour, a ſon.

25. Mrs Deans of Huntington, a daughter.

25. Lady Doune, a ſon.

### DEATHS.

At Montago Bay, Jamaica, James Riddoch, Eſq.

At Jamaica, Alexander Alves, Eſq; ſon of the late Dr John Alves, phyſician in Inverneſs.

At Martinico, Capt. George Hamilton Montgomery, of the 14th regiment of light dragoons, only ſon of the late Lieut.-Col. Montgomery of Newton.

At St Lucia, Captain M. Pattiſon, of the royal artillery.

At Martinico, Capt. John Graham, of the 79th regt. of foot, ſon of Mr Wm Graham of Greenock.

At Morne Ronde, in St Vincent's, Capt. James Hamilton Edwards of the 53d regt. of foot.

At Martinique, Wm Ker junior, of Kerfield, Lieutenant in the 26th light dragoons.

At Grenada, Lieut. John Scott, of the 57th regt. only ſon of the late Alexander Scott, Eſq; of Sinton.

Lieut. Archibald Johnſtone Douglas, of the 18th foot. He was unfortunately drowned when the Courageaux of 74 guns was loſt.

At Holm, in Orkney, Mr James Allifon, miniſter of Holm.

Angus Macdonald, Eſq; of Achtrichtan.

At London, Patrick Cruickſhank, Eſq; of Stracathro.

In Maresfield workhouſe, Thomas Wigmore, at the age 102 years.

The Marchioneſs De Grey, Baroneſs Lucas of Crudwell, in the county of Wiltſhire, in her own right. Her Ladyſhip was grand-daughter to the late Duke of Kent, and daughter of John, 3d Earl of Breadalbane, and widow of the 2d Earl of Hardwick, by whom ſhe had two daughters, viz. Lady Polwarth, widow of Lord Polwarth, and Lady Grantham widow of Lord Grantham. To the eldeſt of whom deſcend the title of Baroneſs Lucas, and the eſtates belonging to the Duke of Kent.

Jan. 1. At Aberdeen, Capt. George Stratton, lately in the ſervice of the Eaſt India Company.

— Dugald Gilchriſt, Eſq; of Opifdale, in the 79th year of his age.

—At Edinburgh, Mr George Montgomery confectioner.

2. David Thomſon, Eſq; of Ingleſton.

3. At Boyndie, the Rt Hon. Lady Katherine Booker.

4. At Garlieſloun, Mr Hugh Hannah, aged 90.

— At Bemerſide, Miſs Charlotte Hay, daughter Captain Adam Hay, of the 35th regiment.

5. At Briſtol, Alexander Napier, Eſq; late from Tobago, ſon of the Hon. Major Gen. Napier.

9. At

9. At Glaſgow, the Rev. Dr M'Caul, one of the miniſters of that city, in the 73d year his age.

— Miſs Rachel Catharine Baillie, daughter of the Hon. George Baillie, of Jarvieſwood.

— At his houſe of Heathcote, Mr Andrew Allardyce.

10. At Elgin, Miſs Elizabeth Robertſon, ſecond daughter of Wm Robertſon, Eſq; of Auchroath.

— The Counteſs Dowager of Guildford.

11. At Muirton, David Scott, Eſq; of Nether Barholm.

— At Edinburgh, Sir Samuel Egerton Leigh, ſecond ſon of the late Sir Egerton Leigh, Bart. his Majeſty's Attorney General for South Carolina.

— At Glaſgow, Mrs Annabella Paterſon, ſpouſe to the Rev. Dr Robert Findlay, Profeſſor of Divinity in that univerſity.

12. At Tongland manſe, the Rev. William Robb.

— At Leith, Mr James Morriſon, merchant there.

13. At Inverneſs, Mrs Margaret Dundas, relict of Richard Dundas, Eſq; of Blair.

— At Berlin, the Queen Dowager of Pruſſia.

— At Roſs, in the iſle of Mull, Mrs Suſannah Campbell, aged 96, relict of Mr Archibald Maclean, ſometime miniſter of the pariſh of Kilfinichan. The ages of her father, brother, and her own, make up 286 years!

14. At London, John Stuart Wortley, Eſq; M. P. for Buſſiney, and Lieutenant in the Colldream guards, nephew to the Marquis of Bute.

16. At Glaſgow, Richard Cameron, Eſq; late of Carntyne.

— At Carntyne, Miſs Elizabeth Gray, daughter of the late John Gray, Eſq; of Carntyne.

— Alexander Gordon, Eſq; of Letterfourie.

18. At Caſſlemilk, Sir John Stuart, Bart. of Caſſlemilk.

— Mrs Caddell, of Bantoc.

19. At Edinburgh, General David Graeme, Colonel of the 19th regiment of foot. The nation is indebted to him for her Majeſty.

— At the manſe of Eccles, the Rev Adam Murray, miniſter of that pariſh, in the 71ſt year of his age.

20. At Kelſo, Mrs Broomfield, wife of Lieutenant Colonel Broomfield.

21. At Aberdeen, in the 72d year of her age, Mrs Helen Boſwell, widow of James Wilſon, Eſq; late of Finzeauch

22. At Edinburgh, James Spotiſwood of Glenſernate, Captain in the Tayſide ſencible infantry.

23. Wm Porteous, Eſq; of Carmacoup.

24. At Edinburgh, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs Farquharſon, relict of the late Francis Farquharſon of Haughton, Eſq.

25. At Banff, George Mure, Eſq; late Captain in the 53d regt. of foot.

— At Peterhead, Mrs Thomas Gordon, of Cairneſs, aged 81.

27. At Edinburgh, Mrs Katharine Hutchiſon, widow of Mr John Strobie, W. E.

— At Dumfries, Mr John Grierſon, dyer, aged 86.

29. Mrs Elizabeth Philp, widow of the deceaſed John Sivewright, Eſq; of Southhouſe.

## PREFERMENTS.

Earl Macartney, to be Governor of the Cape of Good Hope.

Marquis Cornwallis, to be Governor General, and Commander in Chief of the Forces in the Eaſt Indies.

Rt. Hon. Sylveſter Douglas, to be a Lord of the Treaſury.

John Talbot, Eſq; to be Secretary of Legation to the Swiſs Cantons.

Hon. James Stuart, to be Lieutenant Governor of Fort George.

Mr Brown of Johnſton-Burn, and Mr Thomas Campbell merchant in Edinburgh, to be joint Aſſiſtant Surveyors of the Window Tax in Scotland.

William Honeyman, Eſq; Advocate, a Lord of Seſſion.

Sir John Sinclair, Bart. elected M. P. for Petersfield.

## PROMOTIONS.

*War-Office, Jan. 21.*

44th foot. Lieut. Col. Charles Baillie, from the 101ſt foot, to be Lieut.-Colonel, vice Riddel.

45th foot. Lieut.-Col. Wm Horne, from 27th foot, to be Lieut.-Colonel, vice Campbell.

*Jan. 28.*—19th foot. Major Gen. Samuel Huſſe, to be Colonel, vice Graeme, dead.

50th foot. Hon. Major Gen. J. G. Norton, to be Colonel, vice Huſſe.

81ſt foot. Major Gen. Gordon Forbes, to be Colonel, vice Norton.

---

*Prices of Grain at Haddington, Jan. 27.*

Wheat, 26s. Barley, 23s. 3d. Oats, 15s. Peaſe, 14s. 6d. Beans 15s.

---

*Edinburgh, Jan. 30.* Oat-meal, 1s. Bear-meal, 1s. Peaſe-meal, 9d.

---

## PRICES OF STOCKS.

| | Jan. 11. | Jan. 28. |
|---|---|---|
| Bank Stock | 139¼ | 142½ 143⅝ |
| 3 per cent. red. | 54½ ¾ ⅝ | 55 1/24 ½ |
| 3 per cent. conſ | 53 ⅝ ¾ | 54 1/24 5/8 |
| 4 Per cent. | 71¼ ⅜ | 73½ 72¾ |
| India Stock | —— | —— |
| India Bonds | —— | 7 diſc. |
| Lot. Tickets | —— | 12l. 18s. |

# THE SCOTS MAGAZINE,

## *For FEBRUARY* 1797.

CONTENTS.


| | Pag. |
|---|---|
| Anecdotes of Geo. I. Sir R. Walpole, &c. | 74 |
| Memoirs of the Life of Allan Ramſay | 75 |
| Criticiſms on the Gentle Shepherd | 76 |
| Topography and Natural Hiſtory of Scotland—*Dumfries-ſhire* | 79 |
| Natural Hiſtory of the Beaver, &c. correcting former accounts | 82 |
| Gleanings of Literature | 84 |
| On the Education and Studies of Women | 85 |
| Remarks by a Hindoo on the Engliſh Ladies | 87 |
| Original Letter from Lady Compton to her huſband, anno 1612 | 90 |
| Humorous deſcription of ſome Animals peculiar to Great Britain | 91 |
| Curious method of Employing Dogs in Holland | 95 |
| Remarks on Travelling | 96 |
| The art of producing Pleaſant Dreams, by Dr Franklin | 99 |
| State of the Britiſh Empire, from Burke's Letters | 102 |
| New Account of the Names of Britain | 106 |
| Obſervations on the Police of London | 108 |
| The Philoſopher | 109 |

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Rudiments of Political Science, by Angus M'Aulay | 111 |
| The Economy of Nature, by Dr G. Gregory | 112 |
| A Reſidence in France during the years 1791, 2, 3, and 4, prepared by J. Gifford | 116 |
| Donald Bane, an Heroic Poem, by G. Skene, Eſq; | 119 |
| Anecdotes of the Author of Donald Bane | 122 |
| Eſſays by a Society of Gentlemen at Exeter | 122 |
| Remarks on Stones ſaid to have fallen from the Clouds, &c. by Ed. King, F. R. S. | 122 |
| NEW PUBLICATIONS | 122—24 |

POETRY.

| | |
|---|---|
| Angelina mourning the loſs of her Lover at ſea | 124 |
| The Seaſons, inſcribed to the memory of Thomſon | 124 |
| Specimens of Arabic Poetry | 125 |
| Lines by a Frenchman | 125 |
| The Prophecy of Queen Emma, by Mr Mickle | 125 |

STATE PAPERS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Addreſs of General Waſhington to Congreſs | 126 |
| Abſtract of the anſwer | 131 |

MONTHLY REGISTER.

| | |
|---|---|
| Containing intereſting intelligence publiſhed in the London Gazettes | 131 |

CONTINENTAL INTELLIGENCE.

| | |
|---|---|
| Germany—Italy | 133 |
| France | 134 |

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

| | |
|---|---|
| Houſe of Commons—Royal Meſſage | 135 |
| Iriſh Houſe of Commons—Budget | 136 |

LONDON.

| | |
|---|---|
| Incidental occurrences | 137—8 |

EDINBURGH.

| | |
|---|---|
| Incidental occurrences | 138—42 |
| LISTS—Marriages—Births—Deaths, Preferments, &c. | 143—4 |



*EDINBURGH:*

Sold by JAMES WATSON & Co. No 40. South Bridge;
And by the Principal Bookſellers in Town and Country.
By ALLEN & WEST, No 16. Paternoſter-row, London.

# ANECDOTES.

## OF GEORGE THE FIRST.

THERE was a gentleman who lived in the city in the beginning of the reign of this monarch, who was ſo ſtrongly ſuſpected of Jacobitiſm, that he was taken up two or three times before the Council, but who defended himſelf ſo dextrouſly that they could faſten nothing on him. On the breaking out of the rebellion in 1715, this man, who mixed ſome humour with his politics, wrote to the Secretary of State, that, as he took it for granted that at a time like the preſent he ſhould be taken up, as uſual, for a Jacobite, he had only one favour to beg, that if the Adminiſtration meant any ſuch thing, they would do it in the courſe of the next week; for the week after he was going down to Devonſhire upon his own buſineſs, which, without this explanation, no doubt, would be conſtrued as tranſacting the buſineſs of the Pretender.

Lord Townſhend, who was Secretary of State at that time, in one of his convivial moments with the King ſhewed him this letter, and aſked him what His Majeſty would direct to be done with ſuch a fellow? "Poh! poh!" ſays the King, "there can be little harm in a man who writes ſo pleaſantly; I'll tell you what you ſhall do: let him know I am willing to make a drawn battle of it—ſo that, if he lets me alone, he may depend upon it I ſhall do the ſame by him."

## OF SIR ROBERT WALPOLE.

SITTING one evening with ſome intimate friends, towards the cloſe of his adminiſtration, he talked very freely of the vanities and vexations of office, and that it was full time for him to retire; he then repeated from the Second Epiſtle of the Second Book of Horace,

*Luſiſti ſatis, ediſti ſatis, atque bibiſti: Tempus abire tibi eſt.*

"Pray, Sir Robert," ſays one of his friends, is that good Latin? "Why, I think ſo—what objection have you to it?" "Why," ſays the other drily, "I did not know but the word might be *bribe*-iſti in your Horace."

## ALPHONSO THE V.

ALPHONSO V. came to the throne of Arragon, in 1416, and conquered that of Naples, in 1441. He was one day aſked, who were the counſellors he liked beſt, and who gave him the moſt excellent advice. "My books," replied he: "becauſe they tell me without paſſion, and without any view of intereſt, what is requiſite for me to know."

This prince was blamed by ſome one for appearing in public without guards, as not paying ſufficient attention to the ſafety of his perſon. "Alas," replied he, "how can a prince, who has never done any thing but good to his ſubjects, have any thing to fear from them!"

The Duke of Anjou once preſſing him to give battle, when there was no chance of ſucceſs, and nothing, perhaps, of conſequence, to be gained by ſucceſs; he replied, "My prince, the duty of a good general is to conquer, and not to fight."

---

MR MORLAN, firſt phyſician to the Ducheſs of Burgandy, going one day to the Prince's with a ſword, was jocoſe upon his adjuſtment, and ſaid, "Monſeigneur, do not you think I reſemble Captain Spezzaferro of the Italian comedy?" "It is impoſſible to reſemble him leſs," anſwered the Prince; "Spezzaferro never killed any body."

THE

# SCOTS MAGAZINE,

## *For FEBRUARY* 1797.

### MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE OF MR ALLAN RAMSAY.

HOWEVER gratifying it may be to obtain ſome account of an author, whoſe works have attracted admiration and acquired celebrity, we find it often difficult to extend our inquiries much beyond a certain period of the preſent century. Before the appearance of thoſe regular periodical publications, which allow no man of merit to "eſcape the world unnoticed," any information to be obtained is exceedingly ſcanty. Of this, the object of the preſent article is a remarkable inſtance. No poem was ever ſo popular in the kingdom of Scotland as the Gentle Shepherd; yet of the author we have found it almoſt impoſſible to learn thoſe few particulars which, without going into the Boſwellian niceties of biography, it would be very agreeable to know.

Allan Ramſay was born about the year 1686. It is generally agreed that he followed the buſineſs of a barber in Edinburgh, a ſituation which, in thoſe days, may be believed to be of the loweſt. His taſte in poetry, however, has juſtly raiſed him to a degree of fame that may, in ſome meaſure, be conſidered as a recompence for the frowns of fortune. His ſongs are in conſiderable eſteem; but, in the common collections, being mixed with other productions, it is not eaſy to aſcertain what are really his productions. Mr Baker attributes to him the Nuptials, a maſque, printed in 1723; but his fame reſts chiefly upon the paſtoral comedy of Patie and Roger, or the Gentle Shepherd.

Of all poets in the Scottiſh dialect, ſays a critic, the beſt and greateſt, beyond all compariſon, is Allan Ramſay. He appears to have ſtudied Dryden's ſtyle with much attention, ſince his verſes flow with the moſt pleaſing volubility. His provincial phraſes are few, when compared with thoſe of ſome of his imitators, and he has ſelected them with ſuch happy dexterity, that they are almoſt equally familiar in every part of the kingdom. But this is only a ſecondary part of his praiſe. A vein of ſolid good ſenſe, a nice diſcrimination of character, a nervous elegance, and a pathetic ſimplicity of expreſſion; in a word, the genuine language of nature, of paſſion, and of poetry, place his paſtoral comedy almoſt beyond our praiſe. It has been ſaid, that Ramſay did not write this poem; and when that ſtory was no longer tenable, it has been loudly affirmed, that at leaſt a great part of it was written by ſomebody elſe, and the whole corrected by gentlemen who were the author's patrons. But all this is little better than conjecture: Ramſay had no patrons; he might have had officious friends, who might indulge their own vanity by altering or ſupplying a line; but Ramſay died a bankrupt, and it does not therefore appear, that he eſcaped the fate of other geniuſes who have been countenanced by patrons without generoſity.

What his literary acquirements were, it is difficult to aſcertain. He was, however, the firſt who eſtabliſhed a circulating library in Scotland, and having then relinquiſhed his former buſineſs, it may be ſuppoſed, that a genius like

his would not be confined to the *mechanical* services of a library keeper.

The time of his death is fo variouſly related, that we find the dates differ fo widely as 1758 and 1748; the latter appears to be the moſt probable. One of his family, Allan Ramſay, Eſq; his ſon, the celebrated painter, died a few years ago, on his return from the Continent. He was principal portrait-painter to their Majeſties. By his death, the polite and literary world ſuſtained an irreparable loſs, as few men exceeded him in the refinements of taſte, brilliancy of wit, or ſtrength of underſtanding. His writings bear the ſtamp of all theſe excellencies, and his merit as an artiſt has been long acknowledged.

The following letter was written by the paſtoral poet to Mr John Smibert, a portrait-painter, who left England with Dean Berkeley to ſettle in Bermudas. It is dated Edinburgh, May 10. 1736.

"My dear old friend,

"Your health and happineſs are ever *ane* addition to my ſatisfaction. God make your life ever eaſy and pleaſant—Half a century of years have now row'd o'er my *pow*, that begins now to be *hyart*; yet, thanks to my author, I eat, drink, and ſleep as ſound as I did twenty years *ſyne* (ago) yes, I laugh heartily too, and find as many ſubjects to employ that faculty upon as ever; fools, fops, and knaves, grow as rank as formerly, yet here and there are to be found good and worthy men, who are *ane* honour to *humane* life. We have ſmall hopes of ſeeing you again in our old world; then let us be virtuous, and hope to meet in heaven. My good *auld* wife is ſtill my bed fellow: my ſon Allan has been perfuing your ſcience ſince he was a dozen years *auld*—was with Mr Hyſing, at London, for ſome time, about two years ago; has been ſince at home painting here like a Raphael—ſets out for the ſeat of the beaſt, beyond the Alps, within a month hence—to be away about two years. I'm *ſweer* (loth) to part with him, but *canna* ſtem the current, which flows from the advice of his patrons and his own inclinations—I have three daughters, one of ſeventeen, one of ſixteen, and one of twelve years old, and no *rerwayled dragle* among them, all fine girls. Theſe ſix or ſeven years paſt I have not written a line of poetry. I e'en gave over in good time, before the coolneſs of fancy, that attends advanced years, ſhould make me riſk the reputation I had acquired.

"*Frae* twenty-five to five and forty
My muſe was neither *ſweer* nor *dorty*;
My Pegaſus *nead* break his *tether*,
E'en at the *ſhogging* of a feather.
And *threw* ideas ſcour like *drift*,
*Skreaking* his wings up to the lift;
Then, then my *ſtud* was in a *low*;
Then *gart* my numbers ſafely row;
But *eild* and judgment *gin* to ſay,
Let be you *ſangs*, and learn to pray.

I am, ſir, your friend and ſervant,
ALLAN RAMSAY."

Few works have undergone publication more frequently than the Gentle Shepherd. It is alſo popular on the Scottiſh ſtage, but there, as well as on the Engliſh ſtage, where it appeared in 1781, it is almoſt impoſſible to collect a ſet of performers capable of doing juſtice to the language; and in England it has been found as difficult to collect an audience capable of underſtanding it when properly ſpoken. For theſe reaſons the chief pleaſure it affords has been in the cloſet, and that reader has little taſte, and leſs knowledge of poetry, who does not reliſh its ſimple beauties.

## *FOR THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.*

LITTLE FIRST.

*On Ramſay's Gentle Shepherd.*

SIR,

Before I enter particularly upon the Gentle Shepherd, I beg leave to make a few obſervations upon the poem in general, as is cuſtomary with the greateſt ancient as well as modern critics; I ſhall, in doing this, have an eye upon Ariſtotle's method of examining epic poetry

poetry, which Addison has adopted in that excellent critique upon Milton's Paradise Loſt. He *firſt* conſiders the fable; *ſecondly*, the characters; *thirdly*, the ſentiments and behaviour of the actors; and *fourthly*, the language.

*1ſt*, The fables of all dramatic works muſt be probable, but thoſe of the paſtoral drama muſt be peculiarly ſo; nay theſe laſt muſt conſiſt chiefly of common incidents, ſubſervient to one intereſting event, which is the end and occaſion of the whole. Exactly ſuch is the paſtoral before us; almoſt all the ſcenes in it are familiar to the Scotchman, who hath paſſed his days on this ſide the Tweed; and there is one leading circumſtance, one principal occurrence, which all the reſt (nicely organized) approximate, at their ſeveral diſtances. This great and happy event is no leſs than the ſafe return of Sir William Worthy from the wars, and his arrival at his paternal ſeat.

There are few, very few of my countrymen, I believe, who have not peruſed the Gentle Shepherd again and again, with increaſed ſatisfaction and delight; and from whence, let me aſk, ariſe theſe pleaſing emotions? are they not occaſioned by the affinity which we obſerve between this comedy and nature, and its uniform concordance with what we have ſeen and experienced in the world?

*2d*, Of the characters. Theſe are perhaps as well diverſified as the paſtoral life will admit of. The incidents in it are ſuppoſed to be few, and thoſe unintereſting. We imagine that the pipe and crook alternately engage the ſhepherd's attention; in every ſeaſon of the year he ſpends to-day as he did yeſterday, with little or no variation. In like manner, the ſon (making allowance for the difference in natural diſpoſitions) grows up in the very footſteps of his father; his ambition ends with the boundaries of his paſture; his affections are fixed on ſome coy ſhepherdeſs, whoſe praiſes he ſings with unwearied aſſiduity, or whoſe cruelty he laments in ſuch feeling ſtrains, that the ſympathetic rocks and vallies reſound his tale of woe.

We further ſuppoſe, that theſe happy people formed themſelves into convenient ſocieties, where they did and received good offices to and from one another; and who, from the nature of their profeſſion, and from their ſituation in life, we may conclude were remarkable for the innocency of their lives, and ſimplicity of their manners.

Such is a ſample of the golden age, which is no more to be met with in theſe iron times.

In the *third* place, the ſentiments and behaviour of the actors are perfectly correſpondent to their reſpective conditions. All of them, except the knight, are placed in an humble ſphere of life, and their opinions and actions are ſuch as beſt perſons who have not received a liberal education; yet notwithſtanding, they (tutored by nature, and uncorrupted by the world) make uſe of ſimiles drawn from objects immediately ſurrounding them, which come home with greater force to the feeling heart, than any thing which can be effected by the choiceſt language, or moſt elaborate phraſeology. Part of theſe it ſhall be my buſineſs hereafter to point out, when I conſider each act particularly by itſelf.

In the mean time, I ſhall conclude the preſent communication by remarking, in the *fourth* place, of the language: that by ſome it hath been reprobated for its vulgarity and meanneſs; that there are ſome vulgariſms in this poem which it would certainly have been better without, I am not diſpoſed to deny, but that theſe abound throughout, or that the language on the whole is mean, I can on no account admit: it is ſeldom (if ever) unſuitable to the quality of the ſpeakers, who it may be proper here to obſerve, muſt not be conſidered as every way the ſame with the primitive ſhepherds ſpoken of before, or as exactly of that caſt which Pope deſcribes to be the fitteſt characters for paſtoral poetry, but

in a great degree below both; they may be faid to be their equals in felicity; their inferiors in birth, riches, and mental qualifications; viewing them in this light, we ought not to be out of humour with the poet, when we meet with one or two unpolifhed phrafes in the mouths of any of his *dramatis perfonæ*; becauf, *1ft*, hey are taken from real life; *2d*, they render the poem more ludicrous; and laftly, the author meant they fhould pleafe. In fhort I am of opinion, that if fuch naturalities do not always beautify, they feldom disfigure a work of this kind.

I may finally remark, Sir, that the fpeeches of the good old Knight are happily characteriftic. They poffefs a degree of dignity, tempered with affability, which is exceedingly agreeable to the reader, and which is highly meritorious in the author.

My next eflay fhall comprife thofe parts of this delightful comedy which I account blemifhes. In the interim I remain yours, PHILO-SCOTICUS.

---

LETTER SECOND.

SIR,

IN purfuance of my plan, I fhall here take the liberty of quoting a few paffages from the Gentle Shepherd, out of thofe which I deem the moft exceptionable.

The firft which I fhall cite is to be found in the verfes compofed by Patie, and fung by him and Peggy, where the latter, after feveral amorous expreffions, and while in the arms of her lover, fays,

Put ftint your wishes to this kind embrace,
And mint nae farther till we've got the grace.

to which we may ake the fentiment conveyed in the laft ftanza, which, in my opinion, helps to deform this beautiful compofition.

A little further on we obferve Roger, in a rhapfodical manner, intreating Jenny to *brifs* her *bonny breaffs* to his.—— O fye Roger! how could you fpeak fo to a young lafs?—'tis a mercy for you fhe took it in good part—to her love, not to your own difcretion, you are beholden for a wife. But, Mr Editor, all this is nothing in comparifon to the concluding verfe of the poem, where (ill pleafed) we fee the gentle and chafte, though unaccomplifhed Peggy, finging before her virtuous and truly honourable uncle, &c.

Then I'll comply and marry Pate,
And fyne my cockernony;
He's free to touzle air and late,
Where corn riggs are bonny.

If another line was to be added by any other perfon, it would certainly contain a lenient rebuke, from the good old knight, for fuch an unbecoming behaviour.

In Sir William's fpeech, 5th act, about old wives ftories, there is a word or two which may be properly claffed with the above; as well as part of Glaud's dialogue with his daughter and fuppofed niece, which is to be found in the 2d fcene of faid act.

Thefe, though I may not be juftified in terming them *directly* indelicate, have nevertheleſs all of them a tendency that way; a circumftance which cannot be too much guarded againft by writers of every defcription particularly by the Paftoralift, from whom we expect a tranfcript of the feelings, fentiments, and actions of a fpecies of beings whofe morals, as I faid before, were incorrupt, and whofe felicity we fuppofe to have been little inferior to the bliſs of our firft parents in the garden of Eden.

The next fault which I fhall point out, is very trifling; the reader will find it at the beginning of the 2d act, where Glaud fays,

They tell me ye was in the *ither* day.

*Ither* is the word which I object to. The author has here made it fynonymous with *yeſter*, otherwife his poem is inconfiftent; becaufe, for fundry reafons which I could adduce, Symon muft have feen Sir William's fervant when in town. This meaning I think the word will hardly admit of. When we fay, in common converfation, as in the prefent cafe, that we did fo and fo the *other day*, the time fpoken of is at leaft the fecond day from the time

we